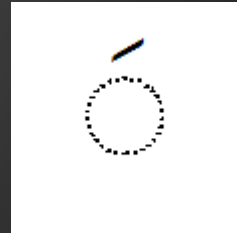
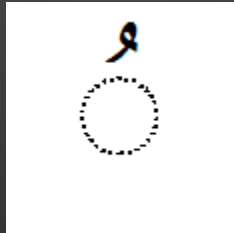
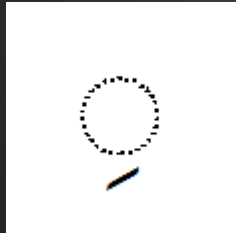
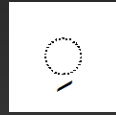


# Short Vowels



# The Basics



ي



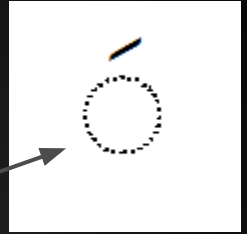
و



ا

- Each long vowel has a corresponding short vowel.
- Short vowels are written atop the letter that precedes them.
- Writing short vowels is the **third and final step** in writing an Arabic word.
  - ◆ What are the first two?
- As we discussed earlier, short vowels are rarely written.
- Long vowel syllables are usually stressed
  - ◆ e.g. ثابت

# fatHa



The circle holds  
the place of the  
Arabic letter

- “fatHa” means “opening”
  - Can you guess why?
- fatHa, like the long alif, ranges from frontal to deep in sound.
- At its most frontal, it sounds like an English *e* (bet)
- At its deepest, it sounds like an English *u* (but)

ثبیت

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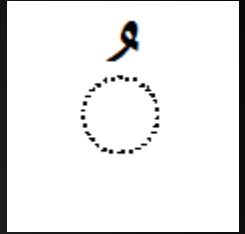
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# Damma



- “Damma” refers to “rounding”
  - Can you guess why?
- Damma also ranges from frontal to deep in sound.
- At its most frontal, it sounds like the oo in booth.
- At its deepest, it sounds like the oo in wool.
- It looks like a miniature waw.
- Note: the *u* in words like *but* and *gum* is closer to the sound of a deep fatHa, not a Damma.

تَب

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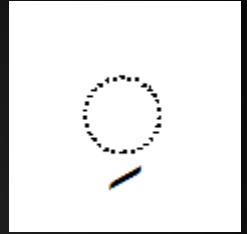
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# kasra






- “kasra” means “break”
  - Because your mouth is only slightly open when you pronounce it
- kasra also ranges in sound from frontal to deep.
- bint vs. Tibb

نَب



# Short Vowels Review

| Name | Corresponding Long Vowel | Shape  | Transliteration | Example |
|------|--------------------------|--|-----------------|---------|
|      |                          |  |                 | بَ      |
|      |                          |  |                 | بُ      |
|      |                          |  |                 | بِ      |

# Reminders

- In Arabic, a syllable starts with a consonant sound.
- The stretch between two consonants is a vowel.
  - If it's a long stretch, you have a long vowel, which is a letter.
  - If it's a short stretch, you have a short vowel, which is a symbol above or below the consonant that comes before it.

تات



ثوت













