

Some key points for proper chanting.

1. Each shloka is divided into 4 quarters.

2. Uchharan of visarg विसर्ग (:)

When it comes in between a quarter, we have to give only small stress or very light aaghat (आघात) on it. When it comes at the end of a quarter, it has to be given full stress.

आचार्यः पितरः पुत्राः तथैव च पितामहाः ।
मातुलाः श्वशुराः पौत्राः श्यालाः सम्बन्धिनस्तथा ॥ १-३४ ॥

3. Clarity of uccharan of ह्रस्व (Hrasva) and दीर्घ (Dheerg) ऊकार and ईकार

भीष्मद्रोणप्रमुखतः सर्वेषां च महीक्षिताम् ।
उवाच पार्थ पश्यैतान् समवेतान्कुरुनिति ॥ १-२५ ॥

4. Uccharan of 'S': It comes in many words in place of 'अ'. We don't have to specifically chant 'अ' there. The previous matra is extended or emphasized in place of that.

योत्स्यमानानवेक्षेऽहं य एतेऽत्र समागताः ।
धार्तराष्ट्रस्य दुर्बुद्धेः युद्धे प्रियचिकीर्षवः ॥ १-२३ ॥

5. Uccharan of Halant हलन्त (्) : It always appears at the bottom of a consonant. For example:

क्, ख्, ग्, घ्

च्, छ्, ज्, झ्

Characters of a word needs to be pronounced in full except when there is a हलन्त. For example, राम is pronounced as rām in Hindi compared to rāma in Sanskrit. Similarly, अर्जुन is pronounced as Arjuna in Sanskrit, न being pronounced fully.

If there is a हलन्त under न then it is pronounced quickly without sound of full अ at the end. For example, the word प्रतापवान् is pronounced as pratapavan not pratapavana.

6. Proper uccharan of श and ष. For example शलगम and षट्कोण.