

## PHONETIC DESCRIPTION OF ENGLISH CONSONANTS

Look at the table below. Notice how each consonant is described.

Symbol    Voice    Place    Manner    Other information

/p/	voiceless	bilabial	plosive	Aspirated in initial position <i>pin</i> .
/b/	voiced	bilabial	plosive	Voiced in final position <i>rub</i> (but don't say <i>rubber</i> ). Preceding vowel lengthened. Compare <i>cap, cab</i> .
/t/	voiceless	alveolar	plosive	Aspirated in initial position <i>tin</i> but not in initial consonant clusters like <i>stop</i>
/d/	voiced	alveolar	plosive	Voiced in final position <i>bad</i> (don't say <i>badder</i> ). Preceding vowel longer. Compare: <i>bed-bet</i>
/k/	voiceless	velar	plosive	Aspirated at beginning of stressed syllable, <i>cat, kitchen, cake, account</i>
/g/	voiced	velar	plosive	Voiced in final position <i>bag</i> . Preceding vowel longer. Compare: <i>bag-back</i> .
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/f/	voiceless	labiodental	fricative	Spelling <i>feet</i> but also <i>photo, laugh</i>
/v/	voiced	labiodental	fricative	voiced in final position <i>live</i> . Preceding vowel longer in <i>live</i> than <i>life</i>
/s/	voiceless	alveolar	fricative	The letter S is not always /s/ but can be /z/
/z/	voiced	alveolar	fricative	voiced in final position such <i>his</i> (see sheet hiss-his) and some plurals <i>dogs</i>
/θ/	voiceless	dental	fricative	don't make this alveolar, <i>thank</i> not <i>sank</i> or <i>tank</i>
/ð/	voiced	dental	fricative	don't make this alveolar, <i>those</i> not <i>doze</i>
/ʃ/	voiceless	palato-alveolar (or post-alveolar)	fricative	Cz. <i>šip</i> Eng. <i>sheep</i>
/ʒ/	voiced	palato-alveolar (or post-alveolar)	fricative	Cz. <i>žena</i> , Eng. <i>vision</i>
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/tʃ/	voiceless	palato-alveolar (or post-alveolar)	affricate	Cz. č. English <i>watch</i>
/dʒ/	voiced	palato-alveolar (or post-alveolar)	affricate	Cz. <i>džem</i> English <i>jam</i>
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/n/	voiced	alveolar	nasal	Syllabic in <i>sudden, reason</i> (after /s/, /z/, /ʃ/, /ʒ/ can be /ɤn/)
/m/	voiced	bilabial	nasal	lengthens preceding vowel <i>him</i> .
/ŋ/	voiced	velar	nasal	Exists in Cz. <i>banka</i> , Eng <i>bank, bang</i>
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/l/	voiced	alveolar	lateral	two allophones: clear /l/ in <i>look, live, let</i> ; dark /l/ in <i>cold, noble, pool</i>
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/r/	voiced	palato-alveolar	approximant	Cz "r" is rolled. Compare <i>rock- rok</i>
/w/	voiced	bilabial	approximant	rounded lips not labiodental /v/ <i>whale/wail</i> and <i>veil, wine</i> and <i>vine</i>
/j/	voiced	palatal	approximant	Cz. <i>jachta</i> Eng <i>yacht</i>
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/h/	voiceless	glottal	fricative	Czech letter h is voiced

