

Ross Lesson 2

Hebrew Vowels with English Transliteration

A Simplified Vowel Chart

Here is a chart with the vowels of Hebrew. Since vowels cannot exist alone, I am using the consonant ב as an aid to pronunciation of the vowels, but note well that vowels can appear under any consonant. You need to be able to recognize the name of the vowel, its transliteration, its sound quality and length.

Sound Quality	Tone Short	Tone Long	Historically Long
A	ב (pataḥ; a)	ב (qāmeṣ; ā)	בה (qāmeṣ-he'ê; â)
E	ב (śgôl; e)	ב (šērê; ē)	בי (šērê-yôd; ê)
I	ב (ḥîreq; i)	ב (none)	בי (ḥîreq-yôd; î)
O	ב (qāmeṣ-ḥātûp; o)	ב (ḥôlem; ô)	בו (ḥôlem-wāw; ô)
U	ב (qibbûṣ; u)	ב (none)	בו (šûreq; û)

Now: Memorize the simplified chart below with the vowels signs of Hebrew and their transliteration. You will need to be able to reproduce the vowels on this chart on your second quiz.

Sound Quality	Tone Short	Tone Long	Historically Long
A	ב ba	ב bā	בה bâ
E	ב be	ב bē	בי bē
I	ב bi	ב (none)	בי bî
O	ב bo	ב bō	בו bô
U	ב bu	ב (none)	בו bû