# Thai vowels chart

The vowels as short and long pairs. Length matters: it decides whether a syllable with no final consonant is live or dead, and so which tone it takes. The consonant is shown as a placeholder where the vowel sits around it.

Short vowel  Long vowel

## อะ

**sara a**
Short "a" as in "ago", stopped abruptly.
Written after the consonant.
With a final: อั
จะ ja, will (marks the future)

## อา

**sara aa**
Long "aa" as in "father", held for a full beat.
Written after the consonant.
No change with a final.
มา maa, to come

## อิ

**sara i**
Short "i" as in "sit".
Written above the consonant.
No change with a final.
กิน gin, to eat

## อี

**sara ii**
Long "ee" as in "see".
Written above the consonant.
No change with a final.
ดี dii, good

## อึ

**sara ue**
Short unrounded "ue" — the "oo" of "book" with your lips spread flat, not rounded.
Written above the consonant.
No change with a final.
หนึ่ง nueng, one

## อือ

**sara uue**
The same unrounded sound, held long.
Written above the consonant.
With a final: อือ
มือ mue, hand

## อุ

**sara u**
Short "u" as in "put".
Written below the consonant.
No change with a final.
คุณ khun, you (polite)

## อู

**sara uu**
Long "oo" as in "moon".
Written below the consonant.
No change with a final.
ดู duu, to look

## เอะ

**sara e**
Short "e" as in "pet".
Written around the consonant.
With a final: เอ็
เตะ te, to kick

## เอ

**sara ee**
Long "ay" as in "may", without the glide at the end.
Written before the consonant.
No change with a final.
ทะเล thalee, sea

## แอะ

**sara ae**
Short "a" as in "cat".
Written around the consonant.
With a final: แอ็
แกะ gae, sheep

## แอ

**sara aae**
The same open "a", held long.
Written before the consonant.
No change with a final.
แม่ mae, mother

## โอะ

**sara o**
Short "o" as in "go", cut off.
Written around the consonant.
With a final consonant it is not written.
โต๊ะ to, table

## โอ

**sara oo**
Long "oh" as in "go", held.
Written before the consonant.
No change with a final.
โต dto, big

## เอาะ

**sara o (open)**
Short "o" as in "hot".
Written around the consonant.
With a final: อ็อ
เกาะ gor, island

## ออ

**sara or**
Long "aw" as in "law".
Written after the consonant.
No change with a final.
ขอ khor, to ask for

## เออะ

**sara oe**
Short "u" as in "burn", without the r.
Written around the consonant.
No change with a final.

## เออ

**sara oee**
Long "u" as in "burn", without the r.
Written around the consonant.
With a final: เอิ
เธอ thoe, you, she

## เอียะ

**sara ia (short)**
A clipped "ia".
Written around the consonant.
No change with a final.

## เอีย

**sara ia**
Glides from "ee" to "a", like the "ia" in "idea".
Written around the consonant.
No change with a final.
เสีย sia, to be broken, to lose

## เอือะ

**sara uea (short)**
A clipped "uea".
Written around the consonant.
No change with a final.

## เอือ

**sara uea**
Glides from the unrounded "ue" toward "a" — lips relaxed, never rounded.
Written around the consonant.
No change with a final.
เรือ ruea, boat

## อัวะ

**sara ua (short)**
A clipped "ua".
Written around the consonant.
No change with a final.

## อัว

**sara ua**
Glides from "oo" to "a".
Written around the consonant.
With a final: อว
ตัว dtua, body, classifier for animals

Some vowels change shape when a final consonant closes the syllable. The last line of each form says how.

Free from **Thai Script Flow**. Hear every letter and word spoken at **thaiscriptflow.com/alphabet/vowels**