

Persian Alphabet and Pronunciation

The Persian Alphabet and Transliteration

Letter name	IPA	Transliteration	End	Middle	Beginning	Isolated
alef	<i>takes vowel sound</i>	<i>takes vowel sound</i>	ا	ا	آ/ا	ا
be	/b/	b	ب	ب	ب	ب
pe	/p/	p	پ	پ	پ	پ
te	/t/	t	ت	ت	ت	ت
se	/s/	s	ث	ث	ث	ث
jim	/dʒ/	j	ج	ج	ج	ج
che	/tʃ/	ch	چ	چ	چ	چ
he	/h/	h	ح	ح	ح	ح
khe	/x/	kh	خ	خ	خ	خ
daal	/d/	d	د	د	د	د
zaal	/z/	z	ذ	ذ	ذ	ذ
re	/r/	r	ر	ر	ر	ر
ze	/z/	z	ز	ز	ز	ز
zhe	/ʒ/	zh	ژ	ژ	ژ	ژ
sin	/s/	s	س	س	س	س
shin	/ʃ/	sh	ش	ش	ش	ش
saad	/s/	s	ص	ص	ص	ص
zaad	/z/	z	ض	ض	ض	ض
taa	/t/	t	ط	ط	ط	ط
zaa	/z/	z	ظ	ظ	ظ	ظ
eyn	/ʔ/	'	ع	ع	ع	ع
qeyn	/ɣ/	q	غ	غ	غ	غ
fe	/f/	f	ف	ف	ف	ف
qaaf	/ɣ/	q	ق	ق	ق	ق
kaaf	/k/	k	ک	ک	ک	ک
gaaf	/g/	g	گ	گ	گ	گ
laam	/l/	l	ل	ل	ل	ل
mim	/m/	m	م	م	م	م
nun	/n/	n	ن	ن	ن	ن
vaav	/v/, /u:/, /o/	v, u, o	و	و	و	و
he	/h/	h	ه	ه	ه	ه
ye	/j/	y	ی	ی	ی	ی

Persian Vowels		
Transliteration ^A	IPA ^B	Similar to this English sound ^C
a	/æ/	ba <u>t</u>
aa	/ɑː/	pa <u>l</u> m
e	/e/	pe <u>t</u>
o	/o/	gl <u>o</u> ry
i	/iː/	gl <u>ee</u>
u	/uː/	fl <u>u</u> te
ey	/ej/	the <u>y</u>
ow	/ow/	gl <u>ow</u>

(A) The first column lists vowels used in the transliteration of Persian in this book.

(B) The middle column shows the phonemic notation for each transliterated vowel.

(C) The third and final column lists English words with comparable vowel sounds. The relevant vowel is underlined. Keep in mind that these are just approximations.