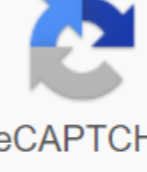# Phonetic spelling guide for names

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Wikipedia: Style/pronunciation, The Guide to this guide is part of the English Wikipedia Style Guide. It is a generally accepted standard that editors should try to follow, although this is best viewed with common sense, and sometimes exceptions can be applied. Any substantial editing of this page should reflect consensus. If in doubt, discuss the discussion page first. ShortcutsWP:MOSPRONMOS:PRONMOS:IPA Style Guide (MoS) Content Accessibility Biography Disambiguation Pages Hidden Text Infoboxes Links Self-Links Words watch Formatization Shortening Dates and Spelling Figures Text format Image copyright Getty Images Image caption Layout Layout Leading section of Tables Legal Legal Trademarks On the Subject of Arts Comics Film Lyrics and Poetry Romances Philosophy Television Video Game Fine Arts Writing on Fantastic Music Samples Recording Charts String Instruments Category Regional Special Canada's naming conventions China and China-related France Hawaii India India India Japan Japan Pakistan Pakistan Singapore Poland Singapore Trinidad and Tobago Religion Islam Saints Holy Science Chemistry Computer Science Computing Medicine, lists and navigation templates Categorization Citing sources Of Hatnotes Military History Signature Insurance Talk Pages Guidelines Pattern Namespace Understanding users of the wikimedia pages of the Wikimedia Sister Projects WikiProjects Review Content Tipsvte Pronunciation in Wikipedia should be transcripted using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) Except in specific cases below. Wide transcriptions should be used for English pronunciation; they are designed to ensure proper interpretation regardless of the reader's accent. The system for this is set out in reference: IPA/English, and the first instance must include a link to this page; for example: England /ˈɪŋɡlənd/. This should be done with the IPAc-en template. In addition to IPAs, you can use wikipedia's retold system using the Respell template. Phonetic transcriptions are not always the best way to make pronunciation. For brand names that are designed to respellings and broad pronunciation. Similarly, initialisms are better spelled out than transcribed. In both situations, this will generally be unambiguous and accessible to a larger portion of our readers. For pronunciation in a foreign language, phonetic transcription is usually used with reference to Help:IPA or various language keys IPA. If phonemic transcriptions are used, they require reference to the description of the language in question, because otherwise the characters used may be ambiguous. options should refer to the relevant recording in Wiktionary, or include an audio file along with transcription. Consider that Wikipedia is not a dictionary when thinking about adding pronunciation to an article; In addition, if the pronunciation is included in the main article, it is better not to repeat it in various articles. In addition to clutter, subsequent edits can lead to conflicting pronunciations. Cm. also: Help:IPA-not-technical introduction to symbols used in IPA for languages beyond others than English more detailed international phonetic alphabet chart for English dialects is a good place for English-speakers to start learning IPA assistance:IPA/Conventions for English-this compares Wikipedia IPA conventions with in-house conventions, Found in various dictionaries pronunciation respelling in English-it compares IPAs with non-IPA transcriptions found in various American dictionaries of phonetic transcription explains the difference between phonemic, phonetic, and morphological transcription, and broad vs. narrow transcriptions Appropriate use See also: Guide to Style/Lead section - Pronunciation For foreign words and names, use the pronunciation key for the appropriate language. If there is a general English rendering of a foreign name (Venice, Nikita Khrushchev), then its pronunciation, if necessary, should be indicated to a foreign one. For English words and names, pronunciation usually be omitted for common words or when apparently out of spelling; use it only for foreign credit words (coup), names with illogical pronunciation (Lester, Ralph Fiennes), or very unusual words (synecdoche). The pronunciation should be indicated sparingly, as parental information disrupts the normal flow of text and introduces clutter. The text of the article should be specified only if it is directly related to the subject, such as the description of the etymology of the word or the explanation of the pun. Less important pronunciations should be omitted altogether, relegated to footnotes, or in a special section in an article or infobox. Articles about phonology and other aspects of language can usually use pronunciation keys throughout the text as needed. Do not include the pronunciation of the names of foreign countries whose pronunciation is well known in English (France, Poland). Do not include them for common English words just because they have pronunciations that may be illogical for those who learn English (laughter, sword). If the title consists of more than one word, include the pronunciation only for the words that need it (all from Jean van Heijenoort, but only Cholmondeley in Thomas. G. Cholmondeley). IPA Style Whenever IPA in the article, it should be contained in the IPA template. This allows registered users to assign a different font to display IPA characters. Brackets should be inside the IPA template for font uniformity. When using IPA, provide an explanation for the reader. If you have multiple IPA copies in the article, you can use the IPA's Contains Special Characters template at the top of the page. However, if the IPA only has a few copies, you can use the template to link the first to one of the help keys, for example: (pronounced IPA-fr ɛɡzõpl) It gives: (pronounced ɛɡzõpl) label: (IPA-fr ɛɡzõplpron) gives the same in the smaller font: (pronounced ɛɡzõpl) For example, IPA-fr is customized specifically to the French language and links to a special help key:IPA/French. If the template for the language in question is not available, use IPA-all instead. With IPA-xx templates, different codes can be entered after the IPA, separated by the pipe, changes the default introductory text. A simple pipe cancels the lead text as stated above. Audio samples can be included in the IPA template. In the case of different IPA-xx templates, it appears after the text code. When a specific phonetic pronunciation is indicated, as in foreign names, it is marked with square brackets. Usually the reader will not know the structure of the language in question well enough for the phonemic transcription in slash to be helpful. The use of slashes is allowed only in cases where the pronunciation represents phonemes, as in broad transcriptions of the English language. However, phonetic transcriptions of the English language can be useful for presenting a particular accent, local or historical pronunciation, or how a person pronounces his or her own name. For example, the English name Florence is usually given a general transcription / ˈflɒrəns/, but in the case of Florence Nightingale we have a transcription [ˈu `i·` `ʧ ɛ Lang-Rus IPA-ru njɪˈkjitə xruˈɕ:of] gives: Nikita Khrushchev (/nɪˈkiːtə ˈkrʊʃtʃɛf/; Russian: (njɪˈkjitə xruˈɕ:of] Transcripts should always have a label, which language they should always have. They are generally used in the national or international standard of the language, except where there are grounds beneˈswela beneˈθwela for more local pronunciation.: ˈIPA-es beneˈswela) Venezuela (locally beneˈswela)) Language templates should not be used for local pronunciation, unless the keys they bind to cover the IPA symbols that are used. (In this case, either IPA-es or IPA-everything will work.) However, in language articles such as Spanish phonology, where phonology is made explicit, examples can be given in phonetic or phonemic notation, depending on the point done, as the reader will have the information available to understand either. If, for any reason, it is desirable to include the pronunciation of a foreign word in a non-language article, a reference to the phonics of the language should be included. The tone of the tone should always be included in the transcription of tonal languages. Because the tone of the numbers is ambiguous- the reader can not know whether the ma4 should be a high tone, low tone, or tone number, for example, IPA transcriptions should use diacritic signs (m) or tone of the letter (Ma1) if the article explains the system of apertures. Other transcription systems If the language is not usually written by the Latin alphabet, there may be an official romance for it. For example, pinyin for the standard Chinese language and the Royal Thai General Transcription System. In such cases, both romanization and rendering of IPAs can be provided. ShortcutMOS:RESPELL English words can be used transcriptions based on English spelling (pronunciation of respellings), such as pre-NUN-see-i-shin (using respell), but only in addition to IPAc-en. Any transcription, whatever system is used, must be linked to the explanation of symbols that are not understood everywhere. Other languages typically use only IPAs. Reprinting foreign pronunciations into English is inadequate and misleading. If English respelling is given to a Welsh or Maori name, not only would it be bad Welsh or Maori, but implied that it is an English pronunciation. However, a special description of the word in a foreign language in that language is allowed. An example would be the Renault 4CV. It's called quar chevaux in French, but re-elided, so that the French pronunciation can be refined with pronounced quat'chevaux (it appears with the French transcription of the IPA kat∫avo, suggesting that the editor believes it is worth including). Special descriptions such as rhymes with both or rhymes with paid may be useful for English sounds, but many such descriptions (such as bathroom rhymes, rhymes with caught) will be interpreted differently depending on the reader's accent, so caution is recommended and this approach should not be used alone. ShortcutMOS:HOMONYM However, when the name is intended to homonymise an existing English word or phrase, as is the case with many brands and artists' names, giving this word or phrase may be all you need: 'Motorola Razr' (stylized RA (pronounced as a razor) produces: Motorola Razr for example: ou at Kyoto Tractor (/katˈouti/coyote) If the IPA is omitted, it will not be clear which of the coyote's pronunciations is intended. In such cases, a combination of IPA and the intended homonym may be required. They should not be formatted with the respell pattern because they do not follow this format. For example: Peter John Cox (IPAc-en) cook ʊ) produces: Peter John Cox (/ˈkʊk/cook) There, the cook should not be formatted with the respell pattern, because then he must be respell KUUK (gives KUUK) to match the key with which he is associated. Places where other systems without IPAs are often suitable are initialisms and names consisting of numbers or symbols. This is because the names of letters, numbers and symbols can be spelled out in formal English in a way that makes pronunciation unambiguous by dialect. For example, Dead on Arrival (DOA) can be better explained as (initialism: D-O-A) rather than as just as correct but less affordable / diːˌoʊˈeɪ/. Similarly: IPAc-en ˌiːˌpiˈɑ sˈˈpiˈʌ ˈce plus plus plus plusˈlt;!-- cee - is the name of the letter c---gt;) produces: SH (/ˌsiːˌplʌs ˈplʌs/cee plus plus) instead of to only use less accessible /ˌsiːˌplʌs ˈplʌs/. Similarly: Javac (pronounced Java-cee) produces: javac (pronounced Java-cee) See the English alphabet Letters about how the names of the letters of the alphabet are written. Similarly, the debate over how to pronounce X in Mac OS X may be better described as ten vs. exes, rather than as / tɛnˈvs./ ˈɛksˈ. In Kew's case, it is enough to write a kitext as a zee or zed, if only one of them is considered correct. Rempeling should also be avoided when a syllable with a redirected will be the same as an existing word that is pronounced differently. Maui / ˈmaui/ respelled as MOW-ee, metonym/mɛ ˈtɒnɪmi/ as meh-TON-im-ee, and cobalt/ ˈkoubɒlt/as KOH-bolt are subject to misinterpretation as / moui/, /mɛ ˈtɒnɪmi/, and / ˈkoubɒlt/, due to existing words mow, tone, and bolt, so that only API should be provided for such words. The opening of lead transcription is often placed immediately after the head of the word article in the dictionary format: London / ˈlʌndən / (LUN-d'n) is ... Or even, London / ˈlʌndən/ it is... This method is good when the pronunciation can be adequately covered with a short brace. However, this method can become distracting, especially when alternative transcription conventions are used, if there are regional differences, or if pronunciation is not otherwise easy. In such cases, other options are better. Some articles, such as Halley's Comet, have a naming or pronunciation section that covers pronunciation explicitly. In other cases a clause as a lead, but in the second allocated sentence, leaving the first sentence unencumbered to define the term. The footnote is another possibility is to go beyond the most common pronunciation in a footnote, or remove it all in a footnote. Compare, for example: Greenwich Village (/ˈɡrɛntʃ/GREN-itch, /ˈɡrɛnɪdʒ/GREN-ij, / ɡrɪnɪtʃ/GRIN-itch, / ˈɡrɪnɪdʒ/GRIN-ij), in New York is often simply called Village, and Franklin Delano Roosevelt (/ˈrouzavɛlt/ROH-z'-velt orˈrouzavalt/ROH-z'vˈlt; January 30, 1882 - April 12, 1945), also known by his initials, FDR, was the 32nd President of the United States (1933-1945) with Greenwich Village, in New York often simply called the Village, and: Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1882-1945), also known by his initials, FDR, FDR was the 32nd President of the United States (1882-1945). In the last pronunciation is given at the bottom of the page in footnote: Notes and pronounced differently /ˈɡrɛntʃ/ GREN-itch, /ˈɡrɛnɪdʒ/ GREN-ij, / ɡrɪnɪtʃ/ GRIN-itch, / ɡrɪnɪdʒ/ GRIN-ij. Pronounced / ˈrouzavɛlt/ROH-z'-velt or /ˈrouzavalt/ ROH-z'-vˈlt Links – American Heritage Dictionary record Greenwich Village See WP:REFNOTE for help in embedding links in footnotes like this. Infobox Multiple infobox templates provide a record of pronunciation. In such articles, there is usually no need to repeat this in lead. Examples: Template:Infobox Medical Condition: Psoriasis Pattern:Infobox (chemical) element: Tungsten Template:Infobox Scientist (Using meta-infobox template: Infobox man): Albert Einstein IPA templates on Wikipedia IPA should always be either enclosed in an IPA template, or placed in a table defined as a class of Wikitable IPA. This ensures proper formatting in browsers; it also makes it easier for editors to find and review IPA transcriptions. There are several types of IPA templates. The simplest is IPA, which simply formats the attached text the way the IPA wikitablica class does for tables. It is usually used when a reader can follow an IPA, either because it is in an article on phonology where the characters are identified because the article is labeled Contains special characters OR because an earlier copy of the IPA in the text was concluded with one of the following patterns that are intended to be more useful to the reader than the general IPA notification. English For more help to the reader, there are several patterns typical of different languages. For general English, you should use IPAc-en, which connects notation to Help:IPA/English, which is the key to the established conventions for transcribing English on Wikipedia, as well as automating the conversion to IPA and providing mouse keys. Description parameters of these patterns, such as marking pronunciation as American, British or local, or adding audio files, can be found on the template page. If you use any IPA template that binds key keys, such as these, English or foreign, the editor must transcribe using the convention key to which he refers; for example, a common English ar sound is transcribed /r/ in Wikipedia articles, not in ɹ/, and is used where native dialect speakers would pronounce it, even in personal and same names. (These diaphonic conventions, which are not specific to any one dialect or national standard, are covered at the top of the Help:IPA/English key.) IPAc-en accepts both IPA and SAMPA. Each phoneme, including the rodic vowels, should get its own cell (such as 'ou' here) rather than disintegrate, or the wrong pop-ups will appear. See the template page for more details. IPAc-en·ˈmˈcˈkˈs ˈɪˈou) → /ˈmɛkstkou/ IPAc-en MH EXE Often have problems with → /ˈmɛkstkou/ Technical Latin or Greco-Latin words in areas such as biology, astronomy, mythology and medicine. If there is one common pronunciation in the field, use it. However, there are often several pronunciations heard along the wedge from highly anglicized pronunciations, as was the case in Shakespeare, to attempt to stay true to Latin or Greek pronunciation. For example, Io can be pronounced either / ˈaɪ.ou/or / ˈi.ou/. Both are correct. Both may be impractical to list all possible pronunciations. In such cases, a general description of the word in a foreign language in that language is allowed. There are several types of IPA templates. These languages and templates are listed in IPA. Again, if the language you're transcribing has such an IPA key, use the conventions of this key. If you want to change these conventions, bring them to the discussion page on the key discussion page. Creating transcriptions that are not supported by the key or changing the key in a way that no longer corresponds to existing transcriptions will confuse readers. If a language doesn't have an IPA-xx pattern and has potential use for it, think about creating it yourself. Use a two-letter code if it has a language; otherwise, use the 3-letter identification code used by Ethnologue and add a template to the IPA templates. The template should be a reference to Help:IPA and classified as a future IPA template. If the template is used by enough articles, the highlighted key for that language can be created under Help:IPA/. Once the key is ready, change the link in the template to this key and add IPA to the keys. For languages that are too obscure to ever have a dedicated template, for dialects of formal languages that do not follow the phonology adopted by the existing IPA key for that language, or for transcriptions that do not involve any particular language, you can use IPA-all. He refers to the common help:IPA key. Use the IPA link, such as tʃ, to link one phone to an article on that phone. Similar IPAblink and IPASIink templates surround transcription with brackets (for phonetic transcriptions) and slashes (for phonemic Accordingly. For The For transcription, the WikiIPA template can be used at the beginning of the line, but the transcription itself is formatted only with the help of IPA. Cleaning Up If You Don't Know How to Fix Messed Up, Pronouncing or Controversial Transcription, there are a few cleaning patterns that are controlled by editors that do. These include: Needs an IPA, an inline tag for pronunciation that does not include IPAs for which an IPA attempt is inadequate (this includes the correct IPA for what appears to be the wrong pronunciation) or an article with IPA problems; If you want pronunciation, then pronunciation is not provided. Note that a simple hint of pronunciation, such as a clear rhyme (rhymes with a view), an unambiguous homonym (pronounced smith) or a prescribed acronym (pronounced S-O-S) usually does not need transcription of the IPA. However, more detailed transcription in the IPA may be replaced by IPAs. Entering IPA characters Many IPA characters may be entered with a conventional mock-up keyboard, but there are different ways to enter them. Underneath the Wikipedia editing window is a map of symbols (see Help: Chartisert and IPA for more information). Select the IPA in the fall box on the left and then just click on the character you want and it will be added to the insertion point in the editing box. Copy and paste from online IPA Keyboard Utilities like IPA i-charts, IPA Characters Collector 19, Typeit, or IPA Chart Keyboard cover the full range of IPA characters and diacritics that are not available from Wikipedia's IPA character maps. Copy and paste them from other countries (other articles or websites, for example) This method sometimes fails when copying characters from diacritics. Many of the familiar IPA letters can be typed with a normal English keyboard arrangement. However, (ˈ) note the length of the sign is different from the colon symbol (ˈ) note The main stress sign differs in character from typewriter apostrophe (ɡ) note the symbol for the voiced velar stop differs character from the lower register of the English letter ɡ On Mac English keyboard layouts, several special characters can be hired: option-c for ç option-o for ɔ option-' for 'option-' for 'enter them with the help of a special utility symbol on macOS , use the character of the Viewer (previously character palette): choose the Phonetic characters category and double click on the character to enter it enter them with a custom layout keyboard for macOS, download the IPA-SIL keyboard layout Numeric recording Following methods require you to know the unicode code of the point for example, the IPA symbol (ɒ) is presented by the hexadecimal value of U. Enter them with help Keyboard input method On most Windows keyboard layouts, type in for o (Note: You want to first install the HKCU-Control Panel-Input Panel-EnableHexNumpad key to enter REG_SZ and value 1 and reboot.) On macOS, use the Unicode Hex Input keyboard layout, The Unicode Input, Type-0-2-5-2 option for ɒ On macOS Yosemite 10.10.5 You can hold the key for a second, and a number of diacritics will appear over the cursor as alternative options. 'a', for example, offers. Enter them into the Wikitext as HTML entities of XML and HTML characters: enter a link to a numbered symbol (decimal): enter no #0594; To refer to the nommeric o symbol (ˌ hexadecimal): enter #0252; for ɒ Resources Complete Guide to Using IPA on Computers, Windows, MacOS, and Linux SIL: Some Tools and Resources for entering UCL characters: International Phonetic Alphabet in the Unicode Unicode Chart for IPA extensions Unicode charts for IPA interval email modifiers Unicode charts, including IPA combining Unicode HTML name diacritic signs for IPA characters The iPA Unicode keyboard for point-and-click entry characters IPA Related Patterns (IPA) allows proper display of IPA characters. IPA-all has brackets and a link to Help:IPA; it is useful for foreign languages and special Accents of English. IPAc-en has a slash and a link to Help:IPA/English; it takes ascII input and displays the mouse key to the IPA. This is the preferred template for general English. IPA-enda uses brackets and references to Help:IPA; It's useful for specific English accents. Contains Special Characters IPA is a message that warns the reader of the presence of IPA characters (Needs IPA) - a template in which one transcription should be included. Specific templates for foreign languages include (see Category:IPA templates for the full list): IPA-de for German IPA-es for Spanish IPA-fr for French Irish (IPA-pl) for Polish (takes either Polish retrography or IPA) (IPA-pt) for Portuguese (IPA-ru) for Russian (see documentation for any of these languages). See also the pronunciation of respelling for the English international phonetic alphabet IPA pulmonary consonant graph with audio IPA vowels chart with Audio Help: IPA Help:IPA / English Help: Pronunciation respelling key (used in Respell) Received from