

YIVO Transliteration Chart

	Transliteration	Sound	Yiddish Letter	H*	at End of Word	Yiddish Letter Name
vowels		(silent)	ש			shtumer alef
	a	a as in father	א			pasekh alef
	o	o as in ore	אָ			komets alef
	u	u as in put, oo as in room	ו			vov
	u	u as in put, oo as in room	וו			melupm vov
	i/y	i as in bit, ee as in beet, or y	י			yud
	i	i as in bit, ee as in beet	יִ			khirek yud
	e	e as in bet	ע			ayen
diphthongs	oy	oy as in boy	ױ			vov yud
	ey	ey as in they	ײַ			tsvey yudn
	ay	i as in ride, or y as in sky	ײִ			pasekh tsvey yudn
consonants	b	b	ב			beyz
	v	v	בּ	✓		veyz
	g	g	ג			gimel
	d	d	ד			daled
	h	h	ה			hey
	v	v	װ			tsvey vovn
	z	z	ז			zayen
	kh	ch as in Bach	ח	✓		khes

	Transliteration	Sound	Yiddish Letter	H*	at End of Word	Yiddish Letter Name
consonants	t	t	ט			tes
	k	k	ק	✓		kof
	kh	ch as in Bach	קח		ך	khof (langer khof)
	l	l	ל			lamed
	m	m	מ		ם	mem (shlos mem)
	n	n	נ		ן	nun (langer nun)
	s	s	ס			samekh
	p	p	פ			pey
	f	f	פּ		ף	fey (langer fey)
	ts	ts as in patsy	צ		ץ	tsadek
	k	k	ק			kuf
	r	r	ר			resh
	sh	sh	ש			shin
	s	s	שׂ	✓		sin
	t	t	טװ	✓		tof
s	s	סװ	✓		sof	
complex consonants	tsh	ch as in cheese	טש			tes-shin
	zh	s as in measure	זש			zayen-shin
	dzh	j as in judge	דזש			daled-zayen-shin

*Yiddish letters with checkmarks (✓) occur only in words of Hebrew or Aramaic origin.