

German vowel pronunciation

a	a	stressed before one cons.	[a:]	Vater	['fa:.təp̥]
	a	unstressed before one cons.	[a]	maximal	[ma.ksi.'ma:l]
	aa	(generally found stressed)	[a:]	Saal	[za:l]
	ah	(generally found stressed)	[a:]	Mahl	[ma:l]
	a	before two or more consonants	[a]	Wasser	['va.səp̥]
	ai		[a:e]	Mai	[ma:e]
	ay	(the archaic spelling of <i>-ai</i>)	[a:e]	Bayern	['ba:e.əp̥n]
	au		[a:o]	Baum	[ba:om]

ä	ä	stressed before one cons.	[ɛ:]	spät	[ʃpɛ:t]
	ä	unstressed before one cons.	[ɛ]	Fäkulom	[fɛ.ku.'lo:m]
	äh	(generally found stressed)	[ɛ]	Krähe	['krɛ:.ə]
	ä	before two or more consonants	[ɛ]	Männer	['mɛ.nəp̥]
	äu		[ɔ:v]	Träume	['trɔ:v.mə]

e	e	stressed and before one cons.	[e:]	ewig, beten	['e:.vɪç] ['be:.tən]	
	e	unstressed before one cons.	[e]	Etüde, Methan	[e.'ty:.də] [me.'ta:n]	
	ee	(generally found stressed)	[e:]	Seele	['ze:.lə]	
	eh	(generally found stressed)	[e:]	mehr	[me:p̥]	
	e	before two or more consonants	[ɛ]	Bett, helfen	[bɛt] ['hɛl.fən]	
	e	in prefixes other than 'ge-' and 'be-'	[ɛ]	vergeht, entgehen, zerrissen	[fɛp̥.'gɛ:t] [ɛnt'gɛ:.ən] [tsɛp̥.'rɪ.sən]	
	e	in prefixes 'ge-' and 'be-'	[ə]	gesund, behalten	[gə.'zunt] [bə.'hal.tən]	
	e	in unstressed endings	[ə]	habe, kommenden	['ha:.bə] ['kɔ.mən.dən]	
	er	in the monosyllable 'er' (he)	[e:p̥]	er	[e:p̥]	
	er-	in the prefix er-	[ɛp̥]	erlangen	[ɛp̥.'la.ŋən]	
	-er	in endings	[əp̥]	aber, verbessern	['a:.bəp̥] [fɛp̥.'bɛ.səp̥n]	
	ei		[a:e]	ein	[a:ən]	
	ey	(old spelling of 'ei')	[a:e]	Meyer	['ma:e.əp̥]	
	eu		[ɔ:v]	heulen	['hɔ:v.lən]	
	i	i	stressed before one cons.	[i:]	Bibel	['bi:.bəl]
		ih	(generally found stressed)	[i:]	ihr	[i:p̥]
		ie	stressed	[i:]	Liebe	['li:.bə]
ie		unstressed	[i]	vielleicht	[fi.'la:ɛçt]	
ieh		(generally found stressed)	[i:]	Viehe	[fi:.ə]	
i		before two or more consonants	[ɪ]	Kinder, ist	['kɪn.dəp̥] [ɪst]	
i		as an unstressed glide	[j]	Studie, nation	['ʃtu:.djə] [na.'tsjo:n]	
-i		in the suffixes '-in' and '-nis'	[ɪ]	Müllerin, Bildnis	['mʏl.ɛ.rɪn] ['bɪlt.nɪs]	
-i		in the suffix '-ig'	[ɪ]	willig	['vɪ.lɪç]	
-i		in the stressed ending '-ik'	[i:]	Musik	[mu.'zi:k]	
-i		in the unstressed ending '-ik'	[ɪ]	Lyrik	['ly:.rɪk]	

o	o	stressed before one cons.	[o:]	Rose, Ton	['ro:.zə] [to:n]
	o	unstressed before one cons.	[o]	moral	[mo.'ra:l]
	oo	(generally found stressed)	[o:]	Moos, Boot	[mo:s] [bo:t]
	oh	(generally found stressed)	[o:]	Sohn, wohl	[zo:n] [vo:l]
	o	before two or more consonants	[ɔ]	Ort, kommen	[ɔrt] ['kɔ.mən]

ö	ö	stressed before one cons.	[ø:]	öde, hören	['ø:.də] ['hø:.rən]
	ö	unstressed before one cons.	[ø]	Ökonom	[ø.ko.'no:m]
	öh	(generally found stressed)	[ø:]	Höhe, fröhlich	['hø:.ə] ['frø:.lɪç]
	ö	before two or more consonants	[œ]	Göttlich	['gœt:.lɪç]

u	u	stressed before one cons.	[u:]	Blume	['blu:.mə]
	u	unstressed before one cons.	[u]	Musik, Kulant	[mu.'zi:k] [ku.'lant]
	uh	(generally found stressed)	[u:]	Stuhl, Uhr	[ʃtu:l] ['u:ɐ]
	u	before two or more consonants	[ʊ]	Mutter, Buch	['mʊ.təɐ] [bu:x]

ü	ü	stressed before one cons.	[y:]	für, grün	['fy:ɐ] [gry:n]
	üh	(generally found stressed)	[y:]	fühlen	['fy:.lən]
	ü	before two or more consonants	[ʏ]	Füllen, Glück	['fv.lən] [glʏk]

y	in words of Greek origin, treat as - <i>ü</i> (common)				
	y	stressed before one cons.	[y:]	Lyrik, Physik	['ly:.rɪk] ['fy:.zɪk]
	y	unstressed before one cons.	[y]	Mykene	[my.'ke:.nə]
	y	before two or more consonants	[ʏ]	Rhythmus	['rʏt.mʊs]
	in words non-Greek origin, treat as - <i>i</i> (less common)				
y		[i]	Tyrol	[ti.'rɔl]	

German cons. pronunciation

b	b	initial or medial in a word element	[b]	Buch, geben	[bu:x] ['ge:.bən]
	b	final in a word element	[p]	Dieb	[di:p]
	b	before -s or another unvoiced cons.	[p]	lebst	[le:pst]
	bb	in the same element	[b]	Ebbe	['ɛ.bə]
	b-b	between two elements	[p.b]	abbauen	['ap.ba:o.ən]

c	c	before a front vowel sound	[ts]	circa	['tsɪr.kə]
	c	before a back vowel sound or cons. except -h	[k]	Café	[ka.'fe:]
	c	in words of Greek origin	[k]	Chor	['ko:ɐ]
	ch	after a front vowel sound or cons. <i>Ich-Laut</i>	[ç]	ich, welche	[ɪç] ['vɛl.çə]
	ch	after a back vowel sound - <i>Ach-laut</i>	[x]	Bach, doch	[bax] [dox]
	chs	within one element	[ks]	sechs	[zɛks]
	ch-s	in separate elements	[ç.s]	lieblichsten	['li:p.lɪçs.tən]
	ck	including the old spelling of -kk	[k]	backen	['ba.kən]

d	d	initial or medial in a word element	[d]	Dolch, anders	[dɔɫç] ['an.dəʁs]
	d	final in a word element	[t]	Tod, und	[tot] [ʊnt]
	d	before -s or another unvoiced cons.	[t]	Bands	[bants]
	dd	in the same element	[d]	Widder	['vi.dəʁ]
	d-d	between two elements	[t.d]	Rad-dampfer	['ra:t, damp.fəʁ]
	dt	cons. combination	[t]	Stadt	[ʃtat]

f	f		[f]	fein, Tafel	[fa:en] ['ta:fəl]
	ff		[f]	Neffe, offen	['nɛ.fə] ['ɔ.fən]

g	g	initial or medial in a word element	[g]	Gott, fragen	[gɔt] ['fra:gən]
	g	final in a word element	[k]	Tag, Flug-zeug	[ta:k] ['flu:k, tso:ʏk]
	g	before -s or an unvoiced cons.	[k]	fragst	[fra:kst]
	gg	in the same element	[g]	Flagge	['fla.gə]
	g-g	between two elements	[k.g]	weg-gehen	['vɛk.gə:ən]
	ig	when final or before a cons.	[ç]	König, Ewigkeit	['kø:nɪç] ['e:vɪç.ka:et]
	ig	before a vowel	[ɪg]	Heilige	['ha:e.lɪ.gə]
	ig	when followed by a syllable with the [ɪç] sound	[ɪk]	ewiglich	['e:vɪk.lɪç]
	g	in words of French origin	[ʒ]	Genie (fr)	[ʒe.ni]

h	h	initial in a word or element	[h]	Held, Gottheit	[helt] ['gɔt.ha:et]
	h	after a vowel in the same syllable	silent	Wahn, gehen	[va:n] ['ge:ən]

j	j	in all German words	[j]	Jahr, ja	[ja:ʁ] [ja:]
	j	in some words of French origin	[ʒ]	Journalist	[ʒur.na.'lɪst]

k	k		[k]	Klausur, zurück	['kla:ʊ.zə] [tsu.'ʏʁk]
	ck	the archaic spelling -kk is seldom encountered	[k]	Bäcker, locken	['bɛ.kəʁ] ['lɔ.kən]

l	l		[l]	loben	['lo:bən]
	ll		[l]	Wellen, soll	['vɛ.lən] [zɔl]

m	m		[m]	Mond, träumen	[mont] ['trø:y.mən]
	mm		[m]	Himmel	['hɪ.məl]

n	n		[n]	Wein	[va:en]
	nn		[n]	Nonne	['nɔ.nə]
	ng	in the same element	[ŋ]	lang, singen	[laŋ] ['zi.ŋən]
	n-g	in separate elements	[ng]	hingehen	['hɪn.ge:ən]
	nk	in the same element	[ŋk]	danken	['daŋ.kən]
	n-k	in separate elements	[n.k]	Anklage	['an.kla:gə]

p	p		[p]	prosit	['pro:zɪt]
	pp	in the same element	[p]	Puppe	['pu:pə]
	ph		[f]	Phrase	['fra:zə]

q	qu	always followed by -u	[kv]	Quelle	['kvɛ:lə]
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r	r	initial or medial after a cons.	[r]	Regen, albre	['re:gən] ['al.brə]
	r	after open vowels [ɪ ɛ ʏ œ a u ɔ]	[r]	hart	[hart]
	r	after a closed-long vowel [a: e: ɛ: y: ø: u: o:]	[ɐ]	Bier, hört	[bi:ɐ] [hø:ɐt]
	r	between two vowels	[r]	wäre	['vɛ:rə]
	rr	in the same element between vowels	[r]	sperren	['ʃpɛ.rən]
	rr	in the same element not between vowels	[r]	harrt, Irr-sein	[hart] ['ɪr.za:ən]
	rr	in separate elements	[ɐ.r]	verraten	[fɛ:ɐ.ra:tən]
	r	final in prefixes	[ɐ]	erhabener	[ɛɐ.'ha:.bɛ.nəɐ]

s	s	initial or medial in a word element	[z]	Silber, Absicht	['zɪl.bɛɐ] ['ap.zɪçt]
	s	between vowels	[z]	Rose	['ro:zə]
	s	final in a word element	[s]	Glas, löslich	[gla:s] ['lø:s.lɪç]
	ss, ß	in the same element	[s]	müssen, Kuß	['mʏ.sən] [kus]
	s-s	between two elements	[s.z]	aussetzen	['a:os.zɛ.tsən]
	sch	in the same element	[ʃ]	schnell, Tisch	[ʃnɛl] [tɪʃ]
	s-ch	between two elements	[s.ç]	Häuschen	['hø:ʏs.çən]
	sp	initial in a word element	[ʃp]	spielen	['ʃpi:lən]
	sp	in all other cases	[sp]	Knospe	['knɔs.pə]
	st	initial in a word element	[ʃt]	Stein	[ʃta:ən]
	st	in all other cases	[st]	ist, trösten	[ɪst] ['trø:s.tən]

t	t		[t]	Ton	[to:n]
	tt	in the same or different elements	[t]	Mutter	['mu.tɛɐ]
	th	in the same element	[t]	Thema, Theater	[te:ma] [te.'a:tɛɐ]
	t-h	in separate elements	[t.h]	Rathaus	['ra:t,ha:os]
	ti	in the endings <i>-tion</i> , and <i>-tient</i>	[tsj]	Nation, Patient	[na.'tsjo:n] [pa.'tsjɛnt]
	tz		[ts]	Platz, sitzen	[plats] ['zɪ.tsən]

v	v	in all words of German origin, and final in all foreign words.	[f]	Vater, brav	['fa:tɛɐ] [bra:f]
	v	other positions in foreign words	[v]	Vase	['va:zə]

w	w		[v]	Welt	[vɛlt]
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x	x	single standard pronunciation	[ks]	Hexe	['hɛ.kse]
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z	z	single standard pronunciation	[ts]	Zimmer, Hertz	['tsɪ.mɛɐ] [hɛrts]
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