Arabic Alphabet Chart

28 letters with their names and English sounds.
Read from right to left, starting at the top right with alif.

1	2	3	4
ا أَلِف **Alif** long aa, as in father	ب بَاء **Baa** b, as in bat	ت تَاء **Taa** t, as in tea	ث ثَاء **Thaa** th, as in think
5	6	7	8
ج جِيم **Jeem** j, as in jam	ح حَاء **Haa (throaty)** deep, breathy h	خ خَاء **Khaa** ch in Scottish loch	د دَال **Daal** d, as in dog
9	10	11	12
ذ ذَال **Dhaal** th, as in this	ر رَاء **Raa** rolled r (Spanish)	ز زَاي **Zaay** z, as in zoo	س سِين **Seen** s, as in sun
13	14	15	16
ش شِين **Sheen** sh, as in ship	ص صَاد **Saad** heavy s	ض ضَاد **Daad** heavy d	ط طَاء **Taa (heavy)** heavy t
17	18	19	20
ظ ظَاء **Dhaa (heavy)** heavy th (this)	ع عَيْن **‘Ayn** throat squeeze	غ غَيْن **Ghayn** gargled r	ف فَاء **Faa** f, as in fan
21	22	23	24
ق قَاف **Qaaf** far-back k	ك كَاف **Kaaf** k, as in kite	ل لَام **Laam** l, as in lamp	م مِيم **Meem** m, as in moon
25	26	27	28
ن نُون **Noon** n, as in net	ه هَاء **Haa (soft)** h, as in hat	و وَاو **Waaw** w, as in water	ي يَاء **Yaa** y, as in yes

Red letters make sounds English does not have. Listen to them and copy; close is good enough at first.

Letter Shapes

Arabic letters change shape depending on where they sit in a word: alone, at the start, in the middle or at the end.

	Alone	Start	Middle	End
Daad	ض	ضـ	ـضـ	ـض
Taa (heavy)	ط	طـ	ـطـ	ـط
Dhaa (heavy)	ظ	ظـ	ـظـ	ـظ
‘Ayn	ع	عـ	ـعـ	ـع
Ghayn	غ	غـ	ـغـ	ـغ
Faa	ف	فـ	ـفـ	ـف
Qaaf	ق	قـ	ـقـ	ـق
Kaaf	ك	كـ	ـكـ	ـك
Laam	ل	لـ	ـلـ	ـل
Meem	م	مـ	ـمـ	ـم
Noon	ن	نـ	ـنـ	ـن
Haa (soft)	ه	هـ	ـهـ	ـه
Waaw	و	و	ـو	ـو
Yaa	ي	يـ	ـيـ	ـي

	Alone	Start	Middle	End
Alif	ا	ا	ـا	ـا
Baa	ب	بـ	ـبـ	ـب
Taa	ت	تـ	ـتـ	ـت
Thaa	ث	ثـ	ـثـ	ـث
Jeem	ج	جـ	ـجـ	ـج
Haa (throaty)	ح	حـ	ـحـ	ـح
Khaa	خ	خـ	ـخـ	ـخ
Daal	د	د	ـد	ـد
Dhaal	ذ	ذ	ـذ	ـذ
Raa	ر	ر	ـر	ـر
Zaay	ز	ز	ـز	ـز
Seen	س	سـ	ـسـ	ـس
Sheen	ش	شـ	ـشـ	ـش
Saad	ص	صـ	ـصـ	ـص

Blue rows: alif, daal, dhaal, raa, zaay and waaw never join the letter after them, so their Start looks like Alone and their Middle looks like End.

Short Vowels

Small marks above or below a letter tell you which vowel to say.
Here they are on baa (ب).



Fatha فَتْحَة

Says **ba** (short a, like the a in about)

قَمَر qamar = moon



Kasra كَسْرَة

Says **bi** (short i, like the i in sit)

بِنْت bint = girl



Damma ضَمَّة

Says **bu** (short u, like the u in put)

كُرَة kura = ball

How to use this chart

1. **Hang it at the child's eye level.** The fridge door or the wall next to the reading corner works. Point with a finger and move from right to left, the way Arabic is read.
2. **Pick two or three letters, not the whole chart.** Ages 3 to 4: sounds only. Ages 5 to 6: name and sound. Ages 7 to 8: add the shapes on page 2.
3. **Say it, then they say it.** Name first, then the sound. Say them together twice, then let the child say it alone.
4. **Find it in the real world.** Look for the letter on a cereal box, a street sign or a book cover. Two minutes is enough.
5. **Trace it.** Use a finger in a tray of salt or flour. Dots matter, so count them out loud.
6. **Review before you add.** Start tomorrow with yesterday's letters. Add a new one only when the child answers quickly.

Tip: five relaxed minutes a day beat one long session a week. Praise the effort, and let the red letters take time.

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Who made this pack?

★ ★ ★

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