Chapter 1a – Hebrew Alphabet

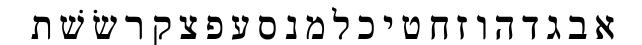
Twenty-Three Consonants

Letter	Name	Pronunciation	Transliteration
*	Alef	silent)
ב	Bet	b as in boy	b
ス	Gimel	g as in God	g
7	Dalet	d as in day	d
ה	He	h as in hay	h
٦	Waw	w as in way	w
7	Zayin	z as in Zion	Z
Π	Ḥet	ch as in Bach	<u></u>
ひ	Tet	t as in toy	<u>t</u>
7	Yod	y as in yes	y
)	Kaf	k as in king	k
ל	Lamed	l as in lion	l
な	Mem	m as in mother	m
ב	Nun	n as in now	n
D	Samek	s as in sin	S
ヹ	Ayin	silent	C
Ð	Pe	p as in pastor	p
¥	Tsade	ts as in boots	Ş
マ	Qof	k as in king	q
٦	Resh	r as in run	r
Ÿ	Sin	s as in sin	Ś
び	Shin	sh as in ship	Š
ת	Taw	t as in toy	t

Chapter 1b – Hebrew Alphabet

Written from Right to Left

Hebrew is written from right to left, *not* left to right as in English





Chapter 1c – Hebrew Alphabet

Five Final Forms

Five Hebrew letters have "final" forms. When one of these letters occurs at the end of a word, it is written differently than when it appears at the beginning or in the middle of a word. The changing of a letter's form does not change its pronunciation or transliteration.

Regular Form	Final Form	Example	Transliteration	Translation
U	٦	דרך	drk	road, way
מ		עם	^c m	nation, people
נ	7	זקן	zqn	old man, elder
פֿ	ካ	כסף	ksp	money, silver
Z	7	ארץ	rṣ	earth, land

Chapter 1d – Hebrew Alphabet

Six Begadkephat Consonants

Six consonants have two possible pronunciations and are known as *begadkephat* consonants. To distinguish between the two pronunciations, a dot called Daghesh Lene is inserted into the consonant. The presence of Daghesh Lene indicates a "hard" pronunciation and its absence denotes a "soft" pronunciation.

Begadkephat Letter	Pronunciation	Transliteration
	b as in boy	b
コ	v as in vine	\underline{b}
A	g as in God	g
ス	gh as in aghast	$ar{g}$
7	d as in day	d
7	dh as in the	\underline{d}
Ð	k as in king	k
)	ch as in Bach	<u>k</u>
Ð	p as in pastor	p
Ð	ph as in alphabe	$ar{p}$
'n	t as in toy	t
ת	th as in thin	<u>t</u>



Chapter 1e – Hebrew Alphabet

Four Guttural Consonants and

Four Hebrew letters are called *gutturals*. They are called gutturals because they are pronounced in the back of the throat.

 \aleph , \sqcap , \square and sometimes

Chapter 1f – Hebrew Alphabet

Easily Confused Letters

Hebrew consonants that look alike

1. □ (Bet) □ (Kaf)

2. **ℷ** (Gimel) **ℷ** (Nun)

3. π (He) π (Ḥet) π (Taw)

4. $\dot{\mathbf{W}}$ (Sin) $\dot{\mathbf{W}}$ (Shin)

6. **7** (Dalet) **7** (Resh)

7. **Y** (Tsade) **Y** (Ayin)

8. 1 (Waw) 7 (Zayin)

9. 1 (Waw) 7 (final Nun)

10. (final Kaf) (final Nun)

Hebrew consonants that sound alike

1. U (Tet) In (Taw with Daghesh Lene)

2. 7 (Qof) 3 (Kaf with Daghesh Lene)

3. ∇ (Samek) ∇ (Sin)

Chapter 1g – Hebrew Alphabet

Modern Pronunciation

The pronunciation of modern Hebrew differs in a number of ways from ancient pronunciation. With the three begadkephat consonants listed below, the forms without Daghesh Lene are pronounced like the forms with Daghesh Lene in modern Hebrew.

Consonant	Traditional Pronunciation	Modern Pronunciation
٦	gh as in aghast	g as in God
7	dh as in the	d as in day
ת	th as in thin	t as in toy
١	w as in way	v as in vine