

GUIDE TO THE INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ALPHABET (I.P.A.)

<u>I.P.A. Symbol</u>	<u>Italian Example</u>	<u>I.P.A. Transcription</u>	<u>Approximate English Equivalent</u>
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Italian Vowels

[i]	figlio, zio	[fiʎʎo -tʃio]	between
[e]	fresca	[freska]	bacon (with Irish accent without [eɪ] glide)
[ɛ]	bello	[bel:lɔ]	pet, bet
[a]	patria, amo	[patrja - amo]	park the car (Boston flat "a")
[ɔ]	sposa	[spoza]	fought, got
[o]	amore	[a'more]	bone (with Irish accent without [oʊ])
[u]	muto	[muto]	boom, gloom

Glides or Semi Vowels

[j]	aiuto	[a'juto]	yammer, yet
[w]	quando	[kwando]	quick, wet

Plosive Consonants - (In Italian these plosive consonants must be un-aspirated, that is with no puff of air escaping between the consonant and vowel or consonant that follows it.)

[b]	bene	[bene]	benefit, ball
[p]	patria	[patrja]	pet, palace
[d]	dammi	[dam:mi]	duty, danger
[t]	tutto	[tut:to]	total, tale
[g]	galante	[ga'lante]	gallant, go
[k]	caro	[karɔ]	cart, cure

Fricative Consonants

[v]	venire	[ve'nire]	velour, vine
[f]	favore	[fa'vore]	favor, flat
[ʃ]	scemo, lasciare	[ʃemo - laʃʃare]	show, ash
[z]	svenire, smanie	[sve'nire - 'zmanje]	zenith, zebra
[s]	salute	[sa'lute]	sale, sole
[l]	ladro	[la'dro]	late, lose
[ʎ]	figlio	[fiʎʎo]	scallion

Vibrant Consonants.

[r]	rompere, cor	[rompere]	red (British),
[r]	ardore	[ar'dore]	very (British),

Nasal Consonants. - (This is the sound the letter *n* takes when it assimilates before either *v* or *f*, the labiodentals).

[n]	nome	[nome]	name.
[m]	mano	[mano],	man, manner.
[ŋ]	stanco, sangue	[stan'ko - 'sangwe]	bank, anguish,
[ɲ]	sogno	[sɔɲno]	canyon, onion,
[ŋ]	inferno, inverno	[im'ferno-im'verno]	-----

Affricate Consonants

[dʒ]	azzurro	[a'd:dzur:ro]	adze, adds up
[tʂ]	pazzo	[pat:tʂo]	pizza, puts up
[dʒ]	giurare	[dʒu'rare]	judge, jump
[tʃ]	cielo	[tʃelɔ]	champ, chimney

Other Symbols

[:] symbol for a long vowel or consonant. Often used to indicate double sounding consonants (example: petto [pet:tɔ]).

[] the stress mark used to indicate that the following syllable is the stressed one (example: amore [a'more]).

Other Foreign Sounds Found in Some of the Operas

[ã] the nasal sound as in Rouen (Tabarro) [ru'ã]

[y] the rounded vowel as in Momus (La Bohème) [mo'mys] or Bullier (Rondine)
[bylje]

[ø] the rounded vowel as in Des Grieux (Manon Lescaut) [de'grjø]

[x] the fricative as in *navaja* and *Saltaja* (Fanciulla) [na'vaxa - sal'taxa]

[ɹ] the English r used for Schaunard's imitation of his English Lord employer