

BBC PHONETIC RESPELLING

Pronunciations are given in a text-based phonetic spelling system based on English spelling conventions. It is based on English sounds with the addition of some other sounds such as Welsh ll and the front rounded vowels found in French and German.

Syllables are separated by hyphens. Stressed syllables are given in CAPITALS. Example: the word *pronunciation* would be respelt pruh-nun-see-AY-shuhn.

Vowels

a as in *cat*
aa as in *calm*
air as in *hair*
ar as in *bar*
aw as in *law*
ay as in *say*
e as in *bed*
ee as in *meet*
eer as in *beer*

i as in *pin*
igh as in *high*
o as in *top*
oh as in *most*
oo as in *soon*
oor as in *poor*
or as in *corn*
ow as in *cow*
oy as in *boy*

u as in *cup*
uh as in *along* (schwa)
ur as in *her*
uu as in *book*
y as in *cry* (see also igh)
oe as in French *peu* or *coeur*
oey as in French *fauteuil*
ue as in French *vu* or
German *finf*

(ng) after a vowel indicates nasalization; as in French *un bon vin blanc*: oe(ng) bo(ng) va(ng) blah(ng).

Consonants

b as in *bat*
ch or tch as in *chin*
d as in *day*
f as in *fat*
g as in *get*
h as in *hat*
hl as in Welsh *llan*
j as in *jam*
k as in *king*

kh as in Scottish *loch*
or German *ich*
l as in *leg*
m as in *man*
n as in *not*
ng as in *sing*
ng-g as in *finger*
nk as in *thank*
p as in *pen*
r as in *red*

s as in *sit*
sh as in *shop*
t as in *top*
th as in *thin*
dh as in *this*
v as in *van*
w as in *will*
y as in *yes*
z as in *zebra*
zh as in *vision*

Our respellings acknowledge word-final or pre-consonantal R, as in words like *party* and *hair*, which is pronounced in some accents of English (rhotic) and not in others (non-rhotic). Therefore *Parker* is transcribed as **par**-kuhr, not **pah**-kuh, and the Rs will be pronounced or not according to the speaker's accent.

Source: http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/commissioning/site/Text_spelling.pdf