

## Hebrew Half Vowels

Vowel	Name	Length in Hebrew; Pronunciation in English	Transliteration
<i>Šewāḏ</i>			
בְּרִית	Vocal š <sup>e</sup> wāḏ <sup>1</sup>	very short “eh”	<i>b<sup>e</sup>rīt</i>
יִקְטֹל	Silent š <sup>e</sup> wāḏ	no sound	<i>yiqṭōl</i>
<i>Hāṭep vowels<sup>2</sup></i>			
יַעֲמֹד	hāṭep pátaḥ	Same as pátaḥ	<i>ya<sup>f</sup>mōd</i>
אֶלְהִים	hāṭep s <sup>e</sup> gōl	Same as s <sup>e</sup> gōl	<i>ʔlōhīm</i>
יַעֲמֹד	hāṭep qāmeṣ	Same as qāmeṣ ḥatûp	<i>yo<sup>f</sup>mad</i>

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<sup>1</sup>Vocal if it begins a word, is the second of two š<sup>e</sup>wāḏs (יִשְׁמְרוּ), or follows a dagesh forte (בְּרִית). If two vocal š<sup>e</sup>wāḏs appear in a row, the first becomes ḥîreq and the second silent = The Rule of Š<sup>e</sup>wāḏ.

<sup>2</sup>Hāṭep vowels are š<sup>e</sup>wāḏs under gutturals (ע ה ה א). If a vocal š<sup>e</sup>wāḏ is followed by a ḥāṭep vowel, the vocal š<sup>e</sup>wāḏ becomes the corresponding short vowel--pátaḥ, s<sup>e</sup>gōl, or qāmeṣ ḥatûp.