

Hebrew Full Vowels

Vowel	Name	Length in Hebrew; Pronunciation in English	Transliteration
<i>A Vowels</i>			
בַּת	pátaḥ ¹	Short; a, as in father	bat̄
אָם or בָּהּ	qāmeṣ ²	Long; a, as in father	šām or bâ ³
<i>I Vowels</i>			
בֶּן	s [°] gôl	Short; e, as in bed	ben
סֵפֶר or בֵּית	šērê	Long; e, as in they	sēper or bêṭ ⁴
מִן	ḥîreq	Short; i, as in bid	min
שִׁיר	ḥîreq	Long; i, as in unique	sîr
<i>U Vowels</i>			
כֹּל-	qāmeṣ ḥaṭûp ⁵	Short, o, as in top	kol
קִבֹּשׁ	qibbûṣ ⁶	Short; u, as in put	quddaš
רוּת	šüreq	Long; u, as in rule	rût
מֹשֶׁה or שְׁלוֹם	ḥôlem	Long; o, as in hole	mōšeh or šālôm ⁷

¹Before a final guttural (ע, ת, ה) and following a long vowel, Hebrew inserts a furtive pátaḥ. רִיחַ.

²Occurs in an open syllable (פִּקְדוֹת), a closed and accented syllable (מִדְבָּר), or in a syllable marked with a *meteg* (תְּכַמֵּה).

³In transliteration, vowel letters are represented by the circumflex. If this hē were a consonant, this word would have been written הֶה. The dot is called *mappiq*.

⁴ê often results from the contraction of the diphthong (or triphthong) ay(i). בֵּית (accented), בִּית (unaccented).

⁵Appears only in closed and unaccented syllables. קִבֹּשׁ.

⁶Qāmeṣ ḥaṭûp and qibbûṣ are the same vowel. Qibbûṣ appears before dagesh forte and qāmeṣ ḥaṭûp everywhere else.

⁷ô may result from the contraction of the diphthong (or triphthong) aw(e). מֹת (accented), מוֹת (unaccented).