

Vowels

Symbols for the Acapela Australian English vowels

Symbol	Word	Phonetic text	Comment
6:	father	f 6:1 D @	
O:	four	f O:1	
l	bit	b l1 t	
i:	neat	n i:1 t	
u:	zoo	z u:1	
6	hut	h 61 t	
U	put	p_h U1 t	
{	pat	p_h {1 t	
e	net	n e1 t	
@	allow	@ l {O1	
{l	main	m {l1 n	
Ae	high	h Ae1	
OI	boy	b OI1	
@U	nose	n @U1 z	
{O	pout	p_h {O1 t	
3:	fur	f 3:1	
Q	dot	d Q1 t	
l@	near	n l@1	
E:	there	D E:1	
U@	sure	S U@1	
i	locally	l @U1 k @ l i	
u	punctual	p_h 61 N k tS u @ L	
A~	renaissance	r e n e1 s A~ s	French vowel
E~	vin	v E~1	French vowel
O~	avignon	{1 v i n j O~	French vowel

l=	battleaxe	b {1 t l= { k s	only before vowels
L=	battle	b {1 t L=	word finally or before consonants
m=	atheism	{l1 T i l z m=	
n=	sudden	s 61 d n=	
r=	history	h l1 s t r= i	

Consonants

Symbols for the Acapela Australian English consonants

Symbol	Word	Phonetic text	Comment
b	bad	b {1 d	
t	stop tomorrow	s t Q1 p t @ m Q1 r @U	
t_h	top	t_h Q1 p	
p	sport potato	s p O:1 t p @ t_h {l1 t @U	
p_h	pad	p_h {1 d	
d	date	d {l1 t	
k	scone campaign	s k Q1 n k { m p_h {l1 n	
k_h	cone	k_h @U1 n	
g	gag	g {1 g	
m	man	m {1 n	
n	nose	n @U1 z	
r	rose	r @U1 z	
l	let	l e1 t	
L	adult	{1 d 6 L t	
N	ring	r l1 N	
f	fat	f {1 t	
v	vote	v @U1 t	
s	sat	s {1 t	

z	zoo	z u:1
S	shin	S l1 n
tS	chin	tS l1 n
Z	measure	m e1 Z @
dZ	gin	dZ l1 n
D	this	D l1 s
T	thin	T l1 n
w	wait	w {l1 t
j	yacht	j Q1 t
h	hit	h l1 t
hj	exhume	e k s hj u:1 m

Lexical stress

A lexical accent is used to indicate the level of prominence (or emphasis) of a syllable in a word. In Australian English, some words can be differentiated by the position of this lexical accent. The word *record* is an example of this since it can be both a noun (*a record*: /r e1 k O: d/) or a verb (*to record*: /r l k_h O:1 d/). Practically all words in Australian English have a lexical accent even if it does not always serve to differentiate between two different words. It is therefore important to include stress marks when writing phonetic transcriptions.

In the phonetic transcriptions, primary accent is indicated by the symbol /1/ placed directly after (no space) the accented vowel. Secondary accent is indicated by the symbol /2/. Some examples:

devastating /d e1 v @ s t {l2 t l N/

devastation /d e2 v @ s t {l1 S n= /

devote /d l v @U1 t/

devotee /d e2 v @ t_h i:1/

Glottal stop

A glottal stop, represented by the phonetic symbol /ʔ/, is a small sound which is often used to separate two words when the second word starts with a stressed vowel. This sound can be inserted in a transcription in order to improve the pronunciation.

Pause

An underscore /_/ in a phonetic transcription generates a small pause.