

Guide to Phonetic Spelling

When providing the phonetic spelling of your name, focus on the way it sounds rather than the way it looks. Here are some examples:

John Barowski	John Ba-ROFF-skee
Emily Nguyen	Emily WIN
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	VOOLF-gang Ahm-a-DAY-us MOT-sart
Renée Schmidt	Ruh-NAY Schmitt
Martina Tygielski	Mahr-TEEN-uh Ti-GALE-skee
Diego Shupla	Dee-AYE-go SHOOP-luh

The phonetic spelling guide below provides additional examples.

Vowel	Examples	Phonetic Spelling	Sample Names
A	f <u>a</u> t, l <u>a</u> nd a <u>p</u> e, d <u>a</u> te, pl <u>a</u> y a <u>h</u> , f <u>a</u> ther, c <u>a</u> r A <u>me</u> rica, a <u>g</u> o	a ay ah uh	Nancy (NAN-see) Jason (JAY-suhn) Adriana (Ah-dree-AH-nah) Bianca (Bee-YAHN-cuh)
E	ch <u>e</u> ck, t <u>e</u> n, wh <u>e</u> n ele <u>p</u> hant, ben <u>e</u> fit gr <u>e</u> en, <u>e</u> vil, h <u>e</u>	E uh Ee	Ken (KEN) Alex (AL-uhks) Maria (Mah-REE-ah)
I	i <u>ce</u> , b <u>i</u> te, h <u>i</u> gh i <u>s</u> , h <u>i</u> t	Y ih	Michael (MY-kuhl) Lindy (LIHN-dee)
O	h <u>o</u> t, f <u>o</u> ught, n <u>o</u> t o <u>pe</u> n, t <u>o</u> ne, g <u>o</u> l <u>oo</u> se, t <u>oo</u> l, cr <u>ew</u> t <u>oy</u> , <u>oi</u> l	ah Oh Oo Oy	John (JAHN) Rose (ROHZ) Judy (JOO-dee) Leroy (LEE-roy)

Vowel	Examples	Phonetic Spelling	Sample Names
U	<u>u</u> p, c <u>u</u> t d <u>u</u> ty, t <u>u</u> be, ass <u>u</u> me f <u>u</u> r, det <u>er</u> <u>u</u> se, c <u>u</u> te, f <u>ew</u>	Uh Oo Ur Yoo	Cynthia (SIN-thee-uh) Julie (JOO-lee) Ursula (UHR-suh-luh) Eunice (YOO-nis)
Y	fam <u>il</u> y, cit <u>y</u> m <u>y</u> , dr <u>y</u>	ee Y	Amy (AY-mee) Kyle (KY-uhl)

Most consonants will sound the way they are written, but there are a few special cases. Below are just a few examples.

Consonant	Examples	Phonetic Spelling	Sample Names
GJ	<u>g</u> iant	j	Gianna (Jee-AH-nah)
GJ	<u>g</u> ift	gh	Gideon (GIH-dee-uhn)
H	l <u>o</u> ch	hh	Ahmed (AHH-med)