

An English and Welsh Alphabetic Code Chart

By Debbie Hepplewhite and Rob Randel		ENGLISH						WELSH				
Sounds	Graphemes (letters and letter groups) that are code for the sounds							Sounds	Graphemes			
	Simple code	Complex or extended code							Simple code	Further spellings for the sounds		
/s/	s snake	-ss glass	-ce palace	-se house	c (e i y) city	sc (e i y) scissors	-st- castle	/s/	s seren (star)			
/a/	a apple				/s/	ps pseudonym		/a/	a afal (apple)			
/t/	t teddy	-tt letter	-ed ripped	-bt debt				/t/	t trên (train)			
/i/	i insect	-y cymbals						/i/	i ffrind (friend)	u pump (five)	y mynd (to go)	
/p/	p pan	-pp puppet						/p/	p pysgod (fish)			
/n/	n net	-nn bonnet	kn knot	gn gnome	-ne engine			/n/	n nyrs (nurse)			
/k/	c cat	k kit	-ck duck	ch chameleon	qu bouquet	que plaque		/k/	c cath (cat)			
/e/	e egg	-ea head	-ai said again	a any many				/e/	e eliffant (elephant)			
/h/	h hat	wh who						/h/	h hwyaden (duck)			
/r/	r rat	-rr arrow	wr write	rh rhinoceros				/r/	r roced (rocket)			
/m/	m map	-mm hammer	-me welcome	-mb thumb	-mn column			/m/	m mwnci (monkey)			
/d/	d dig	-dd puddle	-ed rained					/d/	d deinosor (dinosaur)			

/g/	g girl	-gg juggle	gu guitar	gh gherkin	-gue catalogue				/g/	g glas (blue)		
/o/	o octopus	wa watch	qua qualify	alt salt					/o/	o oren (orange)		
/u/	u umbrella	o son	-ou touch	-ough thoroughfare					/u/	y ysgol (school)		
/l/	l ladder	-ll shell							/l/	l lori (lorry)		
/ul/	-le kettle	-il pencil	-al hospital	-el camel					/ul/			
/f/	f feather	-ff cliff	ph photograph		-gh laugh				/f/	ff ffôn (phone)	ph ei phen -blwydd (her birthday)	
/b/	b bat	-bb rabbit	bu building						/b/	b blodyn (flower)		
/j/	j jug	-ge cabbage	-dge fridge	g^e gerbil	gⁱ giraffe	g^y gymnast			/j/	j jiráff (giraffe)		
/y/	y yawn								/y/			
/ai/	ai first aid	a table	a-e cake	-ae sundae	-aigh straight			/ai/	ei eira (snow)	eu teulu (family)		
	-ay tray	-ey prey	-ea break	-et bouquet	eigh eight							
/w/	w web	wh wheel	-u penguin						/w/	w wal (wall)		
/oa/	oa oak tree	o yo-yo	-oe oboe	o-e rope	-ough dough	-eau plateau	-ou shoulder	/oa/				
	ow bowtie											
/igh/	-igh night	-ie tie	i behind	-y fly	i-e bike	ei eider duck	eye my eyes...	/igh/	ai braich (arm)	ae chwarae (to play)	au haul (sun)	
/ee/	e emu	ee eel	ea eat	e-e concrete	-ey key	-ie briefcase	-ine sardines	/ee/	i ci (dog)	u un (one)	y byd (world)	

	some accents between /i/ and /ee/			-y sunny	-ey monkey	-ie movie					
/y+oo/	u unicorn	-ue statue	u-e tube	ew new	eu pneumatic drill			/y+oo/	iw piws (purple)	uw buwch (cow)	yw byw (to live)
/or/ or similar sound	or fork	ore snore	-our four	-oor door	oar oar/s	war wardrobe	quar quarter	/or/ or similar sound			
	aw dawn	au sauce	-al chalk	-augh caught	ough thought		wa water				
/z/	z zebra	-zz jazz	-s fries	-se cheese	-ze breeze			/z/			
/ng/	-ng gong	-n jungle		/ng+k/	-nk ink	-nc uncle		/ng/	ng dringo	n cyngor (council) (letter g pronounced)	
/v/	v violin	-ve dove						/v/	f fan (van)		
short /oo/	-oo book	-oul should	-u push					short /oo/	w cwpan (cup)		
long /oo/	oo moon	-ue blue	u-e flute	u superb	-ui fruit			long /oo/	w balw'n (balloon)		
		-ew crew	-ou soup	-o move	-ough through						
/k+s/	-x fox		plural words:	-ks books	-cks ducks	-kes cakes		/k+s/			
/g+z/	-x exam		plural words:	-gs pegs	-ggs eggs			/g+z/			
/ch/	ch chair/s	-tch patch		/ch+uh/ or /cher/	-ture picture			/ch/			
/sh/	sh sheep	ch chef	-ti station	-ci musician	-ssi admission			/sh/	si siop (shop)		
unvoiced /th/	th thistle							unvoiced /th/	th thermomedr (thermometer)		

voiced /th/	th over there							voiced /th/	dd mynydd (mountain)		
/k+w/	qu queen	kw awkward						/k+w/			
/ou/	ou ouch	ow owl	-ough plough					/ou/	aw glaw (rain)		
/oi/	oi ointment	oy toy						/oi/	oe coed (trees)	oi cloi (lock)	
/er/	er herbs	ir birthday	ur nurse	ear earth	wor world			/er/			
schwa /uh/	-er mixer	-our humour	-re theatre	-ar collar	-or sailor	a lava		schwa /uh/			
/ar/	ar artist	a father	alm palm	-alf half	-alves calves	are you are		/ar/			
/air/	air hair	-are square	-ear bear	-ere where				/air/			
/eer/	eer deer	ear ear/s	-ere adhere	-ier cashier				/eer/			
/zh/	-si television	-s treasure	-ge collage	-z azure	g courgette			/zh/			
Note: For English, hollow letters in a letter string alert the reader to the pronunciation, or possible pronunciation, of the adjacent letter or letters (for example: ce, ci, cy, letter c is pronounced /s/).								/ll/ Welsh	ll llyfr (book)		
Note: No 'Alphabetic Code Charts' can be completely definitive because of differences in accents, differences in regional and national spellings of some words – and authorial interpretation. English speech has more identifiable sounds (<i>phonemes</i>) than Welsh speech. The English alphabetic code has far more 'spelling alternatives' for the sounds of speech than the Welsh alphabetic code. When reading, the English alphabetic code has many spellings (<i>graphemes</i> - letters and letter groups that are code for the sounds) that are pronounced differently dependent on the words themselves (and in some cases, dependent on variation of accent or dialect).								/ch/ Welsh	ch chwech (six)		
								/rh/ Welsh	rh anrheg (gift)		
								/wy/ Welsh	wy wy (egg) (close to /oi/ in English)		
See https://alphabeticcodecharts.com for a wide range of FREE Alphabetic Code Charts and video explanation (including this chart).											