

Rules of Tajweed

Throatal Letters:

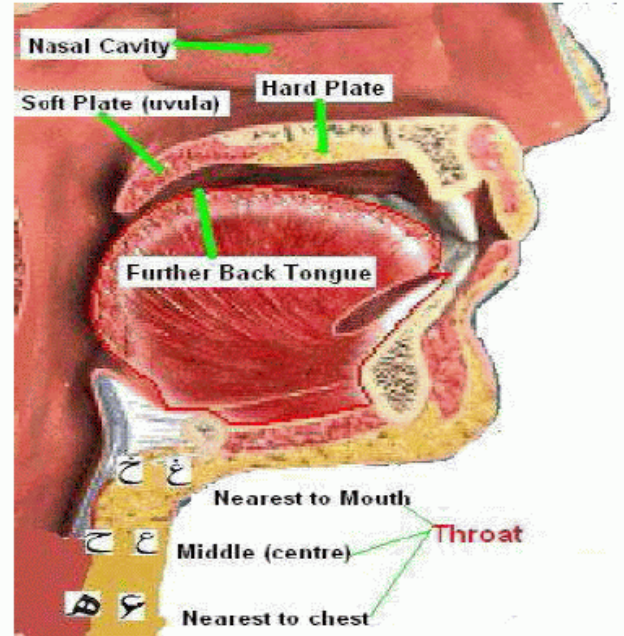
There are six (6) throatal letters.

These letters are pronounced from three levels of throat.

(1) Bottom of the Throat (ه ع)

(2) Middle of the Throat (ح ع)

(3) Top of the Throat (غ خ)



Bold Letters:

There are seven (7) bold letters.

These letters are pronounced with a heavy and strong voice.

خ ص ض غ ط ق ظ
(خُصَّ ضَغُطٍ قِظٌ)

Ra (ر) has some exceptions. It may be **bold** or **light**.

- It is bold when it has any harakat (movement) upon it.

رُ رَّا قُدِيرَ رُسُلُ قَدَرًا اَجْرٌ مِنْ رَبِّكَ

- It is light when it has any harakat (movement) below it.

رِ رِ ضَرِبَ خَبِرَ شَرِ

- When it has a sakoon (jazm) on it then we will look the letter before it. If the previous letter is a bold letter or it has any harakat (movement) upon it then Ra becomes bold and if it has any harakat (movement) below it then Ra becomes light.

أَرْسَلَ أَرْكُضُ (Bold/Strong)
يَغْفِرُ إِصْبِرُ (Light/Soft)

Note: We will apply the same rule on laam (ل) in the word Allah (الله). We will recite it bold or light looking at the letter before it.

Harakaat (Movements):

There are three harakaat (Movements) in Arabic.

(1) — (Fathah or Zabr) آَبَ

(2) ˆ (Kasrah or Zer) اِبِ

(3) ُ (Dammah or Pesh) اِبُ

Sukoon (jazm) Link sign: (◌ْ)

A letter having a harakat (movement) sign (◌◌◌) is called *Mutaharrik* (moved) letter. If a letter is without a harakat sign, it is called *saakin* (resting) letter, and a sign (◌ْ) appears over this letter is called *Sukoon* (jazm).

أَنْ إِذْ أَمْرُ

Silent letters:

The letters having no sign on them (empty letters) are called silent letters. Since they do not produce any sound of their own therefore, they should be overlooked. These silent letters generally occur when *Alif waw* and *Ya* (*Maddah*) are involved. Also letter *.Lam*. (ل) frequently becomes silent where the definite article (*al*) is prefixed to a word.

عَلَى مَرَضُوا وَالتَّيْنِ

TANWEEN: (◌◌◌)

It means a single harakat (movement) with a hidden *Noon saakin* (ن). Instead of writing a harakat and Noon saakin (ن) separately, the respective harakat sign is doubled. Thus letter Noon Saakin (ن) is sounded but not written.

1:- *Fathatain* (Double Fathah/Dow Zabr): (◌◌)

حَا حَا دَا (مَنْ is equal to مَا)
Fathatain generally has a long vowel letter *Alif*.

2:- *Kasratain* (Double Kasrah/Dow Zer): (◌◌)

حِ حِ خِ دِ (مِنْ is equal to مِ)

3:- *Dammatain* (Double Kasrah/Dow Pesh): (◌◌)

سُ سُ شُ صُ (كُنْ is equal to كُ)

Ghunnah:

Saying the voice of meem or noon completely into the nose for a while is called Ghunnah, whereas *ikhfaa* mean hiding the voice of noon or meem partially into the nose.

Maddah Letters:

There are three (3) maddah letters. اوي

1:- *Alif Maddah:* (ا◌)

When Alif has no movement or sukoon (ا) and the letter before Alif has a *Fathah/Zabr* (◌) on it, then letter Alif is called Alif Maddah and will be prolonged for 2 measures of harakah (2 seconds).

بَا تَا ثَا أَصَابَ

(Standing Fathah/Zabr) (ا) It is also equal to Alif Maddah and will be Prolonged for 2 measures of harakah (2 seconds).

ذ is equal to ذَا and كِتَب is equal to كِتَاب

Note: If anytime the letter Alif appears with harakat or sukoon, this is not a true Alif but it is letter Hamza. Letter Alif appears always empty, It may come with Madd sign and always comes after another letter, whereas the letter Hamza may come with a movement as the first letter in a word.

إِنَّمَا أَصَابَ

2.- Wao Maddah: (و)

When wao has a sakoon/Jazm (و) and the letter before wao has a Dammah/Pesh (و) on it, then it is called Wao Maddah and will be prolonged for 2 measures of harakah (2 seconds).

بُوْتُ حُورٌ

(Standing Dammah/pesh) (و) It is also equal to Wao Maddah and will be Prolonged for 2 measures of harakah (2 seconds).

و is equal to وُ and دَاوُد is equal to دَاوُد

3.- Ya Maddah: (ي)

When ya has a sakoon (ي) and the letter before ya has a Kasrah/Zer (ي) on it, then it is called Ya Maddah and will be prolonged for 2 measures of harakah (2 seconds).

بِي تِي أَخِيهِ

(Standing Kasrah/Zer) (ي) It is also equal to Ya Maddah and will be Prolonged for 2 measures of harakah (2 seconds).

ي is equal to يِي and اِيْلَاف is equal to اِيْلَاف

Leen letters:

There are two (2) Leen letters.

1.- Wao Leen: (و)

When wao has a sakoon/Jazm (و) and the letter before wao has a Fathah/Zabr (و) on it, then it is called Wao Leen.

بُوْتُ يَوْمٌ

2:- Ya Leen: (يَ)

When ya has a sakoon/Jazm (يَ) and the letter before ya has a *Fathah/Zabr* (عَ) on it, then it is called Ya Leen.

بِي تِي بَيْتِ

Madd (Prolongation): (ـَ)

Madd sign (ـَ) indicates to prolong (stretch) the *Maddah* letters (Alif, wao and ya) or Leen letters (wao and ya).

Note: There are several kind of *Madd*, Duration of stretching (4 to 6 measures of harakah) and it depends on adjacent letters in a word. The detail rules are essential for advanced learner only, but we should understand the basic madds.

1. Madd-e-Muttasil
2. Madd-e-Munfasil
3. Madd-e-Aaridh Waqfi
4. Madd-e-Laazim

1:- Madd-e-Muttasil: (Long Madd)

The Madd (ـَ) in which after maddah letter, the next letter is hamza in the same word is called Madd-e-Muttasil. It is prolonged from 4 to 6 measures of harakah (4 to 6 seconds).

جَاءَ غُثَاءَ

2:- Madd-e-Munfasil: (Short Madd)

The Madd (ـَ) in which after maddah letter, the next letter is hamza in the beginning of the next word is called Madd-e-Munfasil. It is optional and may be prolonged from 4 to 6 measures of harakah (4 to 6 seconds).

لَا إِلَهَ يَتَّبِعُهَا أَدَى

3:- Madd-e-Aaridh Waqfi:

The Madd (ـَ) in which after maddah or Leen letter, the harakat (movement) of the last letter of the word will be changed into a sakoon which is temporary due to stopping, is called Madd-e-Aaridh Waqfi. It is also optional and may be prolonged from 4 to 6 measures of harakah (4 to 6 seconds).

وَالنَّاسِ وَالَّتَيْنِ ۝ مَشْهُودِ ۝ مِنْ خَوْفِ ۝

4:- Madd-e-Lazim:

The Madd (مَدَّ) in which after maddah letter, there is an original sakoon or shaddah in the same word or in the starting of next word is called Madd-e-Lazim. It is prolonged from 4 to 6 measures of harakah (4 to 6 seconds).

صَالِيْنَ اَللّٰهُ اَلْتُنَّ

Echo/Qalqalah Letters:

There are five (5) echo or qalqalah letters.

When these letters come in the Qur'an with sakoon (سُكُونٌ), we make an echo sound after sakoon by opening the lips. We shall pronounce them with more force, when there is a shuddah (شَدَّةٌ) on the letter and little lighter when there is a sakoon (سُكُونٌ).

ق ط ب ج د (قُطْبُ جَدِّ)

Shaddah: (شَدَّةٌ)

If a *Tashdid* sign (شَدَّةٌ) appears over a letter, then the letter is said again. The first time having *sukoon* (*jazm*) and the second time with harakat.

A letter having *Tashdid* sign is called .Mushaddad.

رَبُّبٍ رَبُّنَا اِنَّمَا

If a *Tashdid* sign (شَدَّةٌ) appears over meem or noon then meen and noon will be recited with Ghunnah.

اِنَّنْ = اِنَّ ثُمَّرٌ ثُمَّرٌ

IDGHAAM (MERGING):

Idgham (Merging) means to mix up one thing into another. When two letter having a similar point of articulation or similar kind, appear side by side first letter with (*saakin*) and the second letter with *Tashdid* with following characteristic

(1) Same letters Example د and د - ل and ل (*Idghaam Mithlayn*)

قَدْ دَخَلُوْا is changed into قَدْ دَخَلُوْا

بَلْ لَّا is changed into بَلَّا

(2) Letters with similar origin Example ب and م - ل and ر
ن and ر (Idghaam Mutaqaaribayn)

وَأَرْكَبُ مَعَنَا بَلْ رَفَعُ

(3) Related letters Example ت and ط or ط and ت - ت and د
(Idghaam Mutajaanisayn)

وَجَدْتُمْ is changed into وَجْتُمْ

In such cases the letter with *sakoon* will be merged (suppressed or not pronounced) with the second letter.

The rules of Nun Saakin and Tanween:

There are four (4) rules of noon saakin and noon tanween.

1. Izhaar (saying clearly)
2. Idgham (Merging or Mixing)
3. Iqlab (Converting or changing)
4. Ikhfaa (Hiding)

1:- Izhar: (Saying Clearly)

If any throatal letter (ء ه ع ح غ خ) comes after *Noon saakin* or *Tanween*, then it will be read normally without any Ghunnah.

نَارْحَامِيَّةٌ بِكْرُ عُمَى أَنْعَمْتَ

2:- Idgham-e-Yarmaloon: (ي ر م ل ون)

There are six (6) yarmaloon (ي ر م ل ون) letters. These are divided into two groups.

(i) Idgham with Ghunnah: (partial or Incomplete Idgham in yamoon. ي م ون.)

مِنْ مِثْلِهِ خَيْرٌ مِنْهُ خَيْرًا يَرَهُ فَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ

(ii) Idgham without Ghunnah: (Complete Idgham. ل ر.)

The sound of *Noon* will disappear completely.

أَنْ لَمْ يَرَهُ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ مِنْ رَبِّكَ

3:- Iqlab: (Conversion to tiny Meem . (م .))

If letter Baa (ب) comes after Noon saakin or Tanween then Noon saakin is changed into Meem saakin (م), with nasal sound.

عَلَيْمٌ بِهِ أَبَدًا إِمَّا مِنْ بَعْدِ

4:- Ikhfaa: (Hiding)

If after noon saakin or noon tanween any other letter appears except the six letters of Throat, Yarmaloon and Baa, then the noon saakin or noon tanween will be recited with Ikhfaa. We will hide the voice of noon into the nose for two seconds.

كُتِبَ قِيَمَةٌ مِنْ دُشَمَاءِ

The rules of Meem Saakin:

1. Izhaar-e-Shafwi
2. Idgham-e-Shafwi
3. Ikhfaa-e-Shafwi

1:- Izhaar-e-Shafwi:

If any letter, except Meem (م) and Baa (ب) comes after meem saakin (م), It will be read normally without any Ghunnah.

أَخَاهُمْ صَالِحًا مِنْهُمْ تَقِيَةً

2:- Idgham-e-Shafwi:

If two meem (مم) come together at the same time then these are merged to one another and Idgham will take place with a nasal sound.

إِلَيْكُمْ مُرْسَلُونَ

3:- Ikhfaa-e-Shafwi:

If the letter Baa (ب) comes after meem saakin (م), then we hide the sound of meem into Baa and Ikhfaa will take place with a nasal sound.

قُمْ بِأَذْنِ اللَّهِ

Waqf (Stop): (○)

The proper pausing (*waqf*) and starting (*ibtida*) while reciting is essential for a reader of Glorious Quraan. With an improper pause or start at a word or verse, the meaning of a sentence could be distorted.

How to Pause (Waqf)

If a pause is made at any word for any reason, in most case the last letter of a word must be made saakin.

Exception: *Fathatain* (ﻻ) and letter *Taa* (ﺕ).

ذُرِّيَّةً طَيِّبَةً ○ أَلْفَاظًا ○ أَدَى ط

If a pause is made over a *Tashdid* letter at the end of a word, its *haarakah* will drop, but the letter must be pronounced with force in order to distinguish between a sukoon and a *Tashdid*.

وَتَبَّ ○ أَبِي لَهَبٍ وَتَبَّ ○

There are many other punctuation marks that generally appear in the middle or end of a verse. The detail of this is beyond the scope of this course. As a general rule for the beginner, make a pause whenever one find such marks namely, وقفه - صلى - وقف النبي - قف - ق - ط - ص - ج - م - ن - لا

exception: لا

الرَّجِيمِ ○ قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ ○

Tiny Noon substitution of Tanween:

An Arabic grammar rule. In some instances if there is a letter with *Tanween* and next letter is *Hamza* then the *Tanween* is written into two separate components:

(1) *Tanween* will change to corresponding single vowel َ ِ ُ .

(2) A tiny *Noon* with *Kasrah* is written under letter *Hamza* .

قَدِيرٌ الَّذِي will be change to قَدِيرُ الَّذِي

The Rule of Ana: (أَنَا)

If anywhere in the Qur'an the word *Anaa* (أَنَا) appears, it will be read as if it is *Ana* (أَنْ). Notice the second alif (ا), which was connected to the (نَ), is ignored.