

SLOVAK ALPHABET - slovenská abeceda

Printed letters are basically the same in Slovak and English. Both languages use the letters of the Latin alphabet.

Letter	Approximate pronunciation in English	Slovak examples
A a	as in B UT	<i>Adam, album, mama</i>
B b	as in B ABY	<i>Bratislava, banka, biznis</i>
C c	as in I T <u>S</u>	<i>Cyril, centrum, stanica, cukor</i>
D d	as in D ONE	<i>Dana, demokrat, diplomat</i>
E e	as in S E <u>T</u>	<i>Ema, Emília, expert, profesor</i>
F f	as in F ORM	<i>Filip, film, festival, fotografia</i>
G g	as in G O	<i>Gabriel, gitara, galéria</i>
H h	as in H AD	<i>Hubert, hotel, Praha, história</i>
Ch ch	as in Scottish LOCH , huge as in German das B<u>u</u> ch	<i>Chorvát, chaos</i>
I i	as in S I <u>T</u>	<i>India, idiot</i>
J j	as in Y ES	<i>Jozef, jazyk</i>
K k	as in K ID or C AT	<i>Kanada, kandidát, koruna</i>
L l	as in L OVE	<i>Lýdia, lampa</i>
M m	as in M UM	<i>Magda, minister, moderný</i>
N n	as in N O	<i>Nóra, nostalgia, noviny</i>
O o	as in O FF	<i>Oto, opera, cukor, víno, pivo</i>
P p	as in O P <u>EN</u>	<i>Peter, pas, papier, pivo, pán</i>
Q q	as in Q UAKER	<i>Quaker, Quido</i>

R r	R olled as in Scottish	<i>Rudolf, robot, recepcia</i>
S s	as in S ISTER	<i>Slovensko, sestra, sóda</i>
T t	as in T EL	<i>Tatry, taxík, tenis</i>
U u	as in U T	<i>UNESCO, univerzita</i>
V v	as in V ERY	<i>Viera, víno, voda, vodka</i>
W w	as in W ERY	<i>Walter, watt, whisky, WC</i>
X x	as in X T	<i>Xénia, prax, taxi, Xerox</i>
Y y	as in Y DY	<i>Tatry, hotely, whisky</i>
Z z	as in Z OO	<i>Zuzana, múzeum</i>

LETTERS **q,w,x** occur only in foreign words.

There is no difference between pronunciation of letter W and V.

How to read letters of Slovak alphabet?

A - á	H - há	N - en	U - ú
B - bé	Ch - chá	O - ó	V - vé
C - cé	I - í	P - pé	W - dvojité v
D - dé	J - já	Q - kvé	X - iks
E - é	K - ká	R - er	Y - ypsilon
F - ef	L - el	S - es	Z - zet
G - gé	M - em	T - té	

TASK :

Try to spell your address, your name, your friends name....

If you visit the website <http://www.slavism.com/slovak/abc.htm> you can practice pronunciation of Slovak letters.

However, some Slovak letters have the so-called DIACRITICAL MARK, or DIACRITICS, above or to the right side of them, and these diacritics change the phonetic (the sound).

LENGTH MARK dížeň

Short letter

A a	as in <u>B</u> UT	<i>Adam, mama</i>
E e	as in <u>S</u> ET	<i>Emília, expert</i>
I i	as in <u>S</u> IT	<i>India, pivo</i>
L l	as in <u>L</u> OVE	<i>vlk, lampa</i>
O o	as in <u>O</u> FF	<i>opera, pivo</i>
R r	rolled as in Scottish	<i>recepčia</i>
U u	as in <u>P</u> UT	<i>univerzita</i>
Y y	as in <u>B</u> ODY	<i>Tatry, hotely</i>

Long Letter

Á á	as in <u>F</u> ATHER	<i>Ábel, áno</i>
É é	as in <u>f</u> iancé	<i>Éter, dobré</i>
Í í	as in <u>st</u> reet	<i>Ír, víno</i>
- í	no equivalent	<i>stíp</i>
Ó ó	as in <u>S</u> AW	<i>Óda, gól</i>
- ó	no equivalent	<i>víba</i>
Ú ú	as in <u>ch</u> oose	<i>Útok</i>
- ú	as in <u>st</u> reet	<i>dobry</i>

Palatalisation mark called mäkčeň

C c	as in ITS	Cyril, stanica, citrón, cena, otec
Č	as in child	Čech, čokoláda, Čína, čaj, červené
D d	as in DONE	Dana, delegát, dolár, dobrý
Ď ď	as in duty	Ďuro, ďakujem
Dz dz	no English equivalent as in Italian lo zio	Dzurinda, bryndza
Dž dž	as in jam	== džem
L l	as in LOVE	Lýdia, lampa, biele
Ľ ľ	as in lurid	Ľubo, ľavý, veľké
N n	as in NO	Nóra, noc, imunita, iniciatíva
Ň ň	as in news	kampaň, deň
S s	as in SISTER	Slovák, sestra, syn, snob
Š š	as in she	Škót, šport, študent, reštaurácia
T t	as in HOTEL	auto, taxík, telefón, televízor

Ť	t'	as in tube	Ťapák, chuť
Z	z	as in ZOO	Zuza, múzeum
Ž	ž	as in vision	Žilina, muž, žena

