

Rule Card #1

## The 16 Constant Consonants

**B D F H J K L M N P Q R T V X Z**

**b d f h j k l m n p q r t v x z**  
These 16 consonants usually make only one sound each. The underlined letters are *whispered*. Just *whisper* them.

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## The Vowels

**A E I O U W Y**

The short vowel sounds are:

**a** as in **at**

**e** as in **Ed**

**i** as in **it**

**o** as in **odd**

**u** as in **up**

W and Y sometimes act as vowels.

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## The Long Vowels

**a** as in **ate**

**e** as in **he**

**i** as in **hi**

**o** as in **open**

**u** (1) as in **mute**

**u** (2) as in **rule**

**u** (3) as in **put**

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## The Magic E

An **e** close behind another vowel (with no more than one letter in between) usually makes the first vowel long, and the **e** is usually silent.

**mad + e = made** **pet + e = Pete** **Tim + e = time**  
**kit + e = kite** **hop + e = hope** **dud + e = dude**  
**trade** **pollute** **label** **meet** **bike** **hotel** **fleet**  
**tribe** **home** **pure** **ape** **drone** **nine** **tribute**

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## The Y Rules

**1. Y makes its consonant sound at the beginning of words: yet yell yip yam yak yelp yap**

**2. Short i: Lynn pyramid (Y copies short i in mid-syllable.)**

**3. Long i: my try fly (Y copies long i at the end of a word or syllable if it is the only vowel in the word or syllable.)**

**4. Long e: baby funny fluffy (Y usually copies long e at the end of a word after a consonant if there is another vowel.)**

**5. Short u: Babylon platypus odyssey paralysis**

**6. Silent: day play valley volley baloney (Y is always silent at the end of a word after a or e, & the a or e is long.)**

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## The S Rules

**1. S usually makes a hissing sound: sit Sam seven**

**2. When surrounded by vowels, s usually copies z: rose nose rise laser muse miser hose**

**3. At the end of a word, s copies z: elms pens subs**

**4. At the end of a word, s makes its hissing sound after whispered letters ( f k p s t ) or their sounds: puffs silks tips bless bats—safes bikes tapes kites**

Rule Card #7

## The C Rule

**C copies s before e, i or y:**

**cent city cyst**

**Otherwise it copies k:**

**cab cot craft**

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