

Note: For Teachers and Parents

Please review the transliteration and then continue using it as you progress. It will help beginners pronouncing the letters consistently correct.

Devanaagarii Transliteration Used in this Book**

Devanaagarii Vowels

Devanaagarii	ITRANS	English Example	हिन्दी उदाहरण	
			हिन्दी शब्द	Transliteration
अ	a	again	अनार	anaar
आ	A/aa	father	आम	aam
इ	i	it	इडली	iDalii
ई	I/i	meet	ईश्वर	iishwar
उ	u	full	उल्लू	ulluu
ऊ	U/uu	pool	ऊन	uun
ए	e	play	एकता	ekataa
ऐ	ai	bad	ऐनक	ainak
ओ	o	go	ओला	olaa
औ	au	author	औरत	aurat
ऋ	RRi	rhythm	ऋषि	RRiShi
अं	M/.n/.m	under	अंकुर	a.nkur
अः	H	*	पुनः	punaH
अँ	.N	Hongkong	आँख	aa.Nkh

Consonants

Devanāgarī	ITRANS	English Example	हिन्दी उदाहरण	
			हिन्दी शब्द	Transliteration
Sounds produced from the throat (Guttural sounds)				
क	ka	kangaroo	कमल	kamal
ख	kha	chutzpah	खरगोश	kharagosh
ग	ga	girl	गधा	gadhaa
घ	gha	doghouse	घर	ghar
ङ	~Na	king	गंगा	ga.ngaa
Sounds produced from the palate (palatal sounds)				
च	cha	chalk	चाकू	chaakuu
छ	Cha	catch him	छोटा	ChoTaa
ज	ja	jump	जहाज	jahaaj
झ	jha	leisure	झरना	jharanaa
ञ	~na	munch	पंच	pa.nch
Sounds produced from the tongue touching the top of teeth of upper jaw (Lingual sounds)				
ट	Ta	time	टमाटर	Tamaatar
ठ	Tha	anthill	ठोस	Thos
ड	Da	dog	डाली	Daalii
ढ	Dha	madhouse	ढोलक	Dholak
ण	Na	*	कण	kaNa

Sounds produced from the tongue touching the bottom of teeth of **upper jaw** (**Dental sounds**)

त	ta	path	तकली	takalii
थ	tha	thunder	थाली	thaalii
द	da	that	दही	dahii
ध	dha	mendham	धनी	dhanii
न	na	net	नदी	nadii

Sounds produced from the **lips** (**Labial sounds**)

प	pa	put	पहाड़	pahaa.D
फ	pha	pharmacy	फल	phal
ब	ba	but	बंदर	ba.ndar
भ	bha	abhor	भारत	bhaarat
म	ma	much	मटर	maTar

partially-vowel, **partially consonant**, **mixed sounds**

य	ya	yes	यमुना	yamunaa
र	ra	rabbit	रंग	ra.ng
ल	la	love	लता	lataa
व	va/wa	Vase, water	वस्तु	vastu
श	sha	shirt	शरबत	sharbat
ष	Sha	*	भाषा	bhaashaa
स	sa	so	सब्जी	sabzii
ह	ha	her	हाथी	haathii

Irregular and Special Consonant Clusters

Devanāgarī	ITRANS	English Example	ihndī]dahrNa	
			ihndī Sabd	Transliteration
क्ष	kSha	*	क्षमा	kShamaa
त्र	tra	*	त्रिशुल	trishuul
ज्ञ	GYa	*	ज्ञान	GYaan
श्र	shra	shrink	श्रीमान	shriimaan
ड़	.Da	*	कड़ा	Ka.Daa
ढ़	.Dha	*	काढ़ा	Kaa.Dhaa
क़	qa	baroque	कदर	qadar
ख़	Kha	*	खत्म	Khatm
ग़	Ga	*	गज़ल	Gazal
ज़	za	zar	ज़मीन	Zamiin
फ़	fa	father	फर्श	farsh

* There are rare English words with this sound.

** There are several Devanaagari transliterations. ESHI books have used ITRANS version of the transliteration.

Treatment of inherent schwa: Devanaagarii consonants include an "inherent a" sound, called the **schwa**, that must be explicitly represented with an "a" character in the transliteration. Many words and names transliterated from Devanāgarī end with "a", to indicate the pronunciation in the original **Sanskrit**. This **schwa is obligatorily deleted** in several modern **Indo-Aryan languages**, including Hindi. This results in differing transliterations for Sanskrit and schwa-deleting languages that retain or eliminate the schwa as appropriate. Examples:

- Sanskrit: Mahābhārata, Rāmāyana, Śiva, Sāmaveda
- Hindi: Mahābhārat, Rāmāyan, Śiv, Sāmved

Some words such as Krishna and vajra and those ending with ry (e.g., Maurya, kaarya, dhairya) may keep the final a, because they would be difficult or incorrect to say without it.