

# TRANSLITERATED HEBREW PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

- A - [a] as in **Chicago**  
E - [ɛ] as in **let**  
I - [i] as in **green**  
O - [ɔ] as in **door**  
U - [u] as in **Moot**  
CH, ḥ - [χ] as in **loch** (guttural kh), note the dot under the ḥ  
H - [h] as in **Hi** (note, no dot under the h)  
G - [g] as in **Gone**  
S - [s] as in **lesson**  
SH - [ʃ] as in **Shallow**  
Y - [j] as in **Yes**.  
R - [r] Rolled or flipped. Never like an American “r”  
EI - [e] The closed “e”, half way between [ɛ] and [i]  
' - [ʔ] or [ə] Glottal stroke (when the apostrophe occurs between two vowels)  
or Shwa (when there’s no vowel and only a consonant)  
N.B. Do not make the apostrophe any vowel other than a shwa, unless I ask you to modify it in rehearsal. In particular, avoid saying “lay-Adonai”. It should be “l’Adonai”, using a shwa after the l, followed by a glottal stroke.

Also, never add a yod (aka the “Y” sound as in “yes”) to the vowel “u”. Just use a pure “u” sound directly.

The other letters are as we would normally pronounce them in English or Latin.