

Thinking about Spelling - What will you use?

Spelling for your Language??

Short Vowels

Sound Description

Usual Spellings

a	as in pasta
i	as in big
u/oo	as in put or book
e	as in bed
o	as in log

a Some communities prefer to use <i>u</i> for this sound. If you want to use <i>u</i> , make sure you choose something else for the <i>u/oo</i> sound described below.
i
u or oo
e
o

Long vowels

long a

as in **cart**

aa

Some communities use *ar* or *ah*. There are problems with *ar* if you are using *rd*, *rn* etc. for the retroflex sounds, because in a word like *barda*, the spelling wouldn't let you know whether it's a long 'a' or a retroflex d.

long i

as in **teeth**

ii or ee

long u or oo

Say 'u' as in 'put' and hold the sound for longer.

uu or oo

If you want to use **oo** for the long sound, you will need to use something different for the short sound in **book**.

long e

as in **air**

ee or ē

This is difficult to spell because *ee* looks like the sound in **teeth**, but *ē* is difficult to type. Whatever you use will have to be taught carefully.

long o

Say 'o' as in 'log' and hold the sound for longer.

oo or ō

This is difficult to spell because *oo* looks like the sound in **book**, but *ō* is difficult to type. Some communities use *or*, but this has the same problems as using *ar* for the long a. Whatever you use will have to be taught carefully.