

	[kk]	sick kid	<i>piki</i> 'along'
	[kkk]	(see below)	<i>kokk</i> 'cook'
l	[l]	<i>lit</i>	<i>lill</i> 'flower'
m	[m]	<i>make</i>	<i>mina</i> 'I'
n	[n]	<i>nine</i>	<i>nii</i> 'so'
o	[o]	<i>comb</i>	<i>odav</i> 'cheap'
p	word initially:		
	[p]	<i>spin</i>	<i>pala</i> 'piece'
	(no puff of air as in <i>pin</i>)		
	word internally and finally:		
	[pp]	<i>sip please</i>	<i>leping</i> 'contract'
	[ppp]	(see below)	<i>sepp</i> 'smith'
q	[k]	(This letter appears only in proper names, e.g. <i>Malmqvist</i> .)	
r	[r]	<i>motto</i>	<i>rand</i> 'shore'
	(A short, weak <i>d</i> -like sound; never <i>r</i> as in <i>red</i> .)		
s	[s]	<i>sit</i>	<i>saun</i> 'sauna'
	[z]	(see below)	<i>isa</i> 'father'
š	[ʃ]	<i>shoot</i>	<i>šampoon</i> 'shampoo'
z	[s], [ts]	(This letter only appears in recent loans, e.g. <i>pizza</i> 'pizza' [-ts-], and in proper names, e.g. <i>Zürich</i> 'Zurich' [ts-], <i>zoologia</i> 'zoology [s-].)	
ž	[ʒ]	<i>television</i>	<i>garaaz</i> 'garage'
t	word initially:		
	[t]	<i>stick</i>	<i>talu</i> 'farm'
	(no puff of air as in <i>tick</i>)		
	word internally and finally:		
	[tt]	<i>hit two</i>	<i>sõita</i> 'to travel'
	[ttt]	(see below)	<i>vett</i> '(some) water'
u	[u]	<i>loot</i>	<i>uni</i> 'sleep'
v	[v]	<i>very</i>	<i>veri</i> 'blood'
w	[v]	(This letter appears only in proper names, e.g. <i>Wiklar</i> ..)	
õ	[ə]	no equivalent	<i>võtma</i> 'to take'
	lips in the position for <i>pet</i> , tongue in position for <i>caught</i>		
ä	[a]	<i>sat</i>	<i>ära</i> 'away'
ö	[ø]	Round and protrude your lips, and say the English word <i>fur</i> ; German <i>schön</i> , French <i>peur</i>	<i>öö</i> 'night'

ü	[y]	Round and protrude your lips, and say the English word <i>fee</i> ; German <i>für</i> , French <i>pur</i>
x	[ks]	extra (This letter appears only in proper names, e.g. <i>Laxman</i> .)
y	[j]	yet
	[i]	same as <i>i</i>
	(This letter appears only in proper names, e.g. <i>Laxman</i> .)	

Vowels and diphthongs

Estonian has nine vowel sounds indicated by the letters *u*, *õ*, *ä*, *õ* and *ü*. Their phonetic values are as follows.

Note that the Estonian vowels are **distinctly**. Modifications of the type *phóto*, *photógrapher*, etc. do not occur in Estonian.

Particularly difficult for English speakers are the vowels *ü*, *õ* and *õ*, indicated by the letters *ü*, *õ* and *õ*.

The letter *ü* represents a high, front vowel produced by putting the tongue in the position for the word *fee*, but simultaneously rounding the lips as in the English word *one*, *püüdma* 'to try, catch', *sügav* 'deep'.

The letter *õ* represents a mid, front vowel produced by putting the tongue in the position for the word *pet*, but simultaneously rounding the lips as in the English word *work*, *õõ* 'night', *kööök* 'kitchen'.

The letter *õ* represents a mid, back vowel produced by putting the tongue in the position for the word *caught*, but simultaneously unrounding the lips as in the English word *võõras* 'strange', *õhk* 'air'.

Estonian has a large number of diphthongs, which are combinations of two vowels within the framework of a single syllable.

<i>haige</i> 'sick'	<i>õige</i> 'correct'
<i>laud</i> 'table'	<i>käes</i> 'in the hand'
<i>aeg</i> 'time'	<i>muinasjutt</i> 'tale'
<i>õed</i> 'sisters'	<i>hoidma</i> 'to keep'
<i>õu</i> 'yard'	<i>eile</i> 'yesterday'