SLOVAK ALPHABET - slovenská abeceda

Printed letters are basically the same in Slovak and English. Both languages use the letters of the Latin alphabet.

**Letter Approximate pronunciation Slovak examples**

 **in English**

A a as in B**U**T ***A****dam,* ***a****lbum, m****a****m****a***

B b as in **B**ABY ***B****ratislava,* ***b****anka,* ***b****iznis*

C c as in **ITS**  ***C****yril,* ***c****entrum, stani****c****a,* ***c****ukor*

D d as in **D**ONE ***D****ana,* ***d****emokrat,* ***d****iplomat*

E e as in S**E**T *Ema, Emília, expert, profesor*

F f as in **F**ORM *Filip, film, festival, fotografia*

G g as in **G**O *Gabriel, gitara, galéria*

H h as in **H**AD *Hubert, hotel, Praha, história*

Ch ch as in Scottish LO**CH**, huge

 as in German das Bu**ch** *Chorvát, chaos*

I i as in S**I**T *India, idiot*

J j as in **Y**ES *Jozef, jazyk*

K k as in **K**ID or **C**AT *Kanada, kandidát, koruna*

L l as in **L**OVE *Lýdia, lampa*

M m as in **M**UM *Magda, minister, moderný*

N n as in **N**O *Nóra, nostalgia, noviny*

O o as in **O**FF *Oto, opera, cukor, víno, pivo*

P p as in O**P**EN *Peter, pas, papier, pivo, pán*

Q q as in **Q**UAKER *Quaker, Quido*

R r **R**olled as in Scottish *Rudolf, robot, recepcia*

S s as in **S**ISTER *Slovensko, sestra, sóda*

T t as in HO**T**EL *Tatry, taxík, tenis*

U u as in P**U**T *UNESCO, univerzita*

V v as in **V**ERY *Viera, víno, voda, vodka*

W w as in **V**ERY *Walter, watt, whisky, WC*

X x as in NE**X**T *Xénia, prax, taxi, Xerox*

Y y as in BOD**Y** *Tatry, hotely, whisky*

Z z as in **Z**OO *Zuzana, múzeum*

LETTERS **q,w,x** occur only in foreign words.

There is no difference between pronunciation of letter W and V.

How to read letters of Slovak alphabet?

A - á H - há N - en U - ú

B - bé Ch - chá O - ó V - vé

C - cé I - í P - pé W - dvojité v

D - dé J - jé Q - kvé X - iks

E - é K - ká R - er Y - ypsilon

F - ef L - el S - es Z – zet

G - gé M - em T - té

**TASK :**

Try to spell your address, your name, your friends name….

If you visit the website [**http://www.slavism.com/slovak/abc.htm**](http://www.slavism.com/slovak/abc.htm)you can practice pronunciation of Slovak letters.

However, some Slovak letters have the so-called DIACRITICAL MARK, or DIACRITICS, above or to the right side of them, and these diacritics change the phonetic (the sound).

**LENGTH MARK dĺžeň ´**

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| **Short letter** **Long Letter**  |
| **A a** as in BUT *Adam, mama*  **Á á** as in FATHER *Ábel, áno*  |
| **E e** as in SET *Emília, expert*  **É é** as in fiancé *Éter, dobré* |
| **I i** as in SIT *India, pivo*  **Í í** as in street *Ír, víno* |
| **L l** as in LOVE *vlk, lampa* **- ĺ** no equivalent *stĺp* |
| **O o** as in OFF *opera, pivo* **Ó ó** as in SAW *Óda, gól*  |
| **R r** rolled as in Scottish *recepcia* **- ŕ** no equivalent *vŕba*  |
| **U u** as in PUT *univerzita*  **Ú ú** as in choose *Útok* |
| **Y y** as in BOD**Y** *Tatry, hotely* **- ý** as in street *dobrý*  |
|  |

**Palatalisation mark called mäkčeň**

**C c** as in ITS Cyril, stanica,citrón, cena,otec

**Č č** as in child Čech, čokoláda, Čína, čaj, červené

**D d** as in DONE Dana, delegát, dolár, dobrý

**Ď d´** as in duty Ďuro, ďakujem

**Dz dz** no English equivalent

 as in Italian lo zio Dzurinda, bryndza

**Dž dž** as in jam == džem

**L l** as in LOVE Lýdia, lampa, biele

**Ľ ľ** as in lurid Ľubo, ľavý, veľké

**N n**  as in NO Nóra, noc, imunita, iniciatíva

**Ň ň** as in news kampaň, deň

**S s** as in SISTER Slovák, sestra, syn, snob

**Š š** as in she Škót, šport, študent, reštaurácia

**T t** as in HO**T**EL auto, taxík, telefón, televízor

**Ť ť** as in tube Ťapák, chuť

**Z z** as in ZOO Zuza, múzeum

**Ž ž** as in vi**sio**n Žilina, muž, žena