

# Main French sounds

Here is a presentation of the main French sounds

For some sounds, there are several ways of writing them, for example, the sound corresponding to the letter “è” can also be written “ai” or “et” at the end of a word.

In the second column there are possible spellings.

On the other hand, for some sounds there are some slight nuances; for example the sound “a” can be pronounced in a more or less deep way . The sound “e” can be pronounced in a more or less open way.

This distinction appears in the last column with the corresponding IPA (international phonetic alphabet) signs.

## Vowels

Voyelle	exemple d'orthographe	Signe API	Variantes de prononciation
a	<a href="#">a_cannes.mp3</a> Cannes	[a]	<a href="#">a_paris.mp3</a> Paris
		[ɑ]	<a href="#">a_bale.mp3</a> Bâle
e	<a href="#">e_grenoble.mp3</a> Grenoble, Meudon	[ø]	<a href="#">eu_bagneux.mp3</a> Bagneux
		[œ]	<a href="#">eu_villeurbanne.mp3</a> Villeurbanne
		[ə]	<a href="#">e_nevers.mp3</a> Nevers, Le Havre
i	<a href="#">i_paris.mp3</a> Paris, Vichy	[i]	
o	<a href="#">o_monaco.mp3</a> Monaco, Bordeaux, Pau	[ɔ]	<a href="#">o_bayonne.mp3</a> Bayonne, Limoges
		[o]	<a href="#">o_aubagne.mp3</a> Aubagne Bobigny
u	<a href="#">u_frejus.mp3</a> Fréjus	[y]	
é	<a href="#">e_creteil.mp3</a> Créteil, Angers	[e]	
è	<a href="#">e_sete.mp3</a> Sète, Roubaix, Cholet	[ɛ]	
ou	<a href="#">ou_toulouse.mp3</a> Toulouse	[u]	
an	<a href="#">an_nantes.mp3</a> Nantes, La Défense	[ɑ̃]	
on	<a href="#">on_toulon.mp3</a> Toulon	[ɔ̃]	
in	<a href="#">in_saint_martin.mp3</a> Saint Martin	[ɛ̃]	<a href="#">in_villepinte.mp3</a> Villepinte

Voyelle	exemple d'orthographe	Signe API	Variante de prononciation
		[œ]	<a href="#">un_melun.mp3</a> Melun
oi	<a href="#">oi_blois.mp3</a> Blois	[w]	
ui	<a href="#">ui_caluire.mp3</a> Caluire, Guyancourt	[y]	
ill	<a href="#">ill_milly.mp3</a> Neuilly, Milly	[j]	

## Consonants

Consonne	exemple d'orthographe	Signe API
b	<a href="#">b.mp3</a> Béatrice	[b]
c	<a href="#">c.mp3</a> Catherine, Colette, Katia	[k]
ch	<a href="#">ch.mp3</a> Charles	[ʃ]
d	<a href="#">d.mp3</a> David, Delphine	[d]
f	<a href="#">f.mp3</a> Fabien, Florence	[f]
g	<a href="#">g.mp3</a> Gabriel, Guillaume	[g]
j	<a href="#">j.mp3</a> Julie, Jade, Jordan	[ʒ]
	<a href="#">gi.mp3</a> Gilbert, Geneviève	
l	<a href="#">l.mp3</a> Léo, Lisa, Loana	[l]
m	<a href="#">m.mp3</a> Marie, Michel, Monique	[m]
n	<a href="#">n.mp3</a> Nicolas, Nadine	[n]
p	<a href="#">p.mp3</a> Patrick	[p]
r	<a href="#">r.mp3</a> René, Rose, Richard	[ʀ]
s	<a href="#">ss.mp3</a> Suzanne, Solange	[s]
	<a href="#">ce.mp3</a> Cécile, Cyril	
	<a href="#">sss.mp3</a> Anissa	
t	<a href="#">t.mp3</a> Tania, Thomas	[t]
v	<a href="#">v.mp3</a> Valérie	[v]

Consonne	exemple d'orthographe	Signe API
z	<a href="#">z.mp3</a> Zoé	[z]
	<a href="#">zs.mp3</a> Lisa	

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