

Khmer	Sub Script	Before Vowel	After Clack	Bin.	Khmer	Sub Script	Before Vowel	After Clack	Bin.	Khmer	Sub Script	Before Vowel	After Clack	Bin.
ក	n	k	k	k	ប	្រ	th	t	t	ព	្រ	p	p	p
ខ	s	kh	k	k	ឌ	្រ	d		t	ភ	្រ	ph	p	p
គ	n	k	k	k	ឈ	្រ	th		t	ម	្រ	m	m	m
ឃ	្រ	kh	k	k	ណ	្រ	n	n	n	យ	្រ	y		y
ង	្រ	្រ		្រ	ត	្រ	t	t	t	រ	្រ	r		្រ
ច	្រ	c	c	c	ថ	្រ	th	t	t	ល	្រ	l	l	l
ឆ	្រ	ch	c		ទ	្រ	t	t	t	វ	្រ	w		w
ជ	្រ	c	c	c	ឍ	្រ	th	t	t	ស	្រ	s	s	h
ឈ	្រ	ch	c		ន	្រ	n		n	ហ	្រ	h	្រ	
ញ	្រ	្រ		្រ	ប	្រ	b	p	p	ឡ	្រ	l		
ដ	្រ	d	d	t	ឍ	្រ	ph	p	p	ឍ	្រ	q	q	

**Vowels and Diphthongs**

Vowel	1st Series	2nd Series	Vowel	1st Series	2nd Series	Vowel	1st Series	2nd Series
—	aa	oo	្រ	ou	uu	្រ	ay	iy
្រ	aa	ia	្រ	ua	ue	្រ	ao	oo
្រ	e	i	្រ	ae	ae	្រ	aw	iw
្រ	ay	ii	្រ	ia	ie	្រ	om	um
្រ	a	i	្រ	ia	ia	្រ	am	um
្រ	ei	ii	្រ	ei	ee	្រ	am	oem
្រ	o	u	្រ	ae	cc	្រ	ah	eeh
<b>Independent</b>	<b>Vowel Name</b>		<b>Independent</b>	<b>Vowel Name</b>		<b>Independent</b>	<b>Vowel Name</b>	
្រ	sraq qeɔ		្រ	sraq qae		្រ	sraq rik	
្រ	sraq qay		្រ	sraq qay		្រ	sraq ri	
្រ	sraq qoɔ		្រ	sraq qao		្រ	sraq lik	
្រ	sraq qou		្រ	sraq qao		្រ	sraq li	
្រ	sraq qaw		្រ	sraq qaw				

**Tones & Diacritic Marks**

• —	It's occurrence over the final consonant symbol of a syllable shortens the vowel of that syllable. In a syllable with no written vowel, it signals the short inherent vowel, i.e., /a/. after a first series consonant symbol, and, after a second series consonant symbol.
” —	This is used to convert 2nd series consonant symbols, which have no counterparts in the 1st series, to 1st series symbols thus indicating a 1st series pronunciation of the vowel symbol.
~ —	This is used to convert the first series symbols, which have no second series counterparts, to the second series symbols, so that the following vowel symbol is pronounced with its second series value!
• —	This has the same value as the short inherent vowel +/m/./-am/
• —	This has the same value as the short /-a-/
◁ —	This symbol is placed over the final consonant symbol of certain etymological spellings to indicate that the consonant symbol is not to be pronounced. Any vowels or subscript consonants which accompany the 'cancelled' consonant are likewise rendered silent.
◁ —	In most words, it occurs over a final consonant symbol, neither the marker nor the symbol over which it occurs is pronounced. It may also be used to change the vowel as well as to cancel the final consonant symbol. When appearing over a medial consonant, it is pronounced as the intruded syllable /-re-/ preceding the consonant over which it appears.
◁ —	This always represents a final /-h/ after a short syllable. When no vowel is written, it represents an /-ah/.
• —	This occurs only after consonant symbols that are to be pronounced as stressed syllables either at the end of a word or preceding an internal juncture in compounds. This is also used as a diacritic marker to describe the pronunciation of any consonant symbol which is to be pronounced as an independent syllable, whether stressed or unstressed.
◁ —	Only occurs on a few words, i.e., then and which
— —	This symbol which is written above a character is used to show that a consonant symbol is pronounced as a final consonant rather than the initial of a following syllable.
+ —	This is used to mark the point of insertion of an omitted word or consonant symbol. It also occurs in certain particles that are normally pronounced with a high or rising intonation.
— —	A space is analogous to an English comma.
¶ —	This is a full stop. It occurs less frequently than the full stop in English. This normally occurs only at the end of a paragraph.
¶ —	This symbol is a full stop that implies more finality than the former (above). It marks the entire end of a chapter or an entire text.
◉ —	This is full stop symbol that marks the absolute end of a text. It is usually reserved for poetic or religious texts.
◉ —	This is an embellishment said to represent the trunk of the elephant god Ganesha, which marks the beginning of literary and religious texts.
÷ —	It is used in much the same way as the colon in English.
⌈ —	Indicates that the word or phrase after which it occurs is to be repeated.
្រ្រ្រ —	This is usually used to represent et cetera.
— —	Used to indicate that a word has been interrupted at the end of a line and is continued in the next. It is also used in verse where the poetic measure requires that a word be divided into 2 measures.

## Basic Conversation

Hello: johm riab sua/sua s'dei

## A2 - LES CONSONNES

Comme nous l'avons dit, les 33 consonnes khmères portent en elles-mêmes le son a (prononcez comme le aw anglais) ou le son or selon qu'elles appartiennent à la catégorie "aigüe" ou à celle dite "grave". Pour par exemple écrire le mot KaK (*QawQ in English*) on prend la consonne Ka et la place devant une autre Ka. On décide que la première Ka conserve sa voyelle innée a mais que la deuxième Ka devienne muette comme toute consonne digne de ce nom. On obtient ainsi, **sans voyelle**, le mot KaK qui signifie *geler*. Nous verrons bientôt que cette façon de "gagner une voyelle" fera perdre beaucoup de choses à l'écriture khmère. Ce semi-syllabisme est hérité du sanskrit où les mots-racines se terminent tous par "a" ou "or" et forment les phrases par désinence avec les voyelles o, am, aa, i, etc. Voici les 33 consonnes (ou semi-syllabes) khmères :

ក̣ Ka, ខ̣ KHa, គ̣ Kor, ឃ̣ KHor, ង̣ NGor ។ ច̣ CHa, ឆ̣ CHHa, ជ̣ CHor,  
1780 1781 1782 1783 1784 1785 1786 1787  
 ឈ̣ CHHor, ណ̣ NHor ។ ដ̣ Da, ឍ̣ DHa, ឌ̣ Dor, ឍ̣ DHor, ណ̣ Na ។  
1788 1789 178A 178B 178C 178D 178E  
 ត̣ Ta, ថ̣ THa, ទ̣ Tor, ធ̣ THor, ន̣ Nor ។ ប̣ Ba, ផ̣ PHa, ព̣ Por, ភ̣ PHor,  
178F 1790 1791 1792 1793 1794 1795 1796 1797  
 ម̣ Mor ។ យ̣ Yor, រ̣ Ror, ល̣ Lor, វ̣ Vor, ស̣ Sa, ហ̣ Ha, ឡ̣ La, អ̣ A ។  
1798 1799 179A 179B 179C 179D 179E 179F

La catégorie **aigüe** inclut donc les consonnes Ka, KHa, CHa, CHHa, Da, DHa, Na, Ta, THa, Ba, PHa, Sa, Ha, La, A. La catégorie **grave** comprend : Kor, KHor, NGor, CHor, CHHor, NHor, Dor, DHor, Tor, THor, Nor, Por, PHor, Mor, Yor, Ror, Lor, Vor. Remarquons que DHa et DHor, malgré qu'elles aient leur propre caractère, se prononcent exactement comme THa et THor.

## A3 - CONSONNES PLUS VOYELLES

AIGÜE	Les consonnes deviennent quand même muettes quand elles se combinent avec d'autres voyelles et ne donnent que leur souffle dans la fabrication des syllabes. Si la première consonne est Ka, sa combinaison avec la voyelle <i>ir</i> donne Kir et non Ka-ir. Voyons maintenant la différence entre les catégories "aigüe" et "grave". En khmer c'est la consonne et non la voyelle qui dicte le son. Prenons la voyelle "o", avec la consonne aigüe Ka ça donne Ko mais avec la consonne grave Kor ça donne Kou. On peut comparer les combinaisons complètes des 25 voyelles avec les consonnes Ka (aigüe) et Kor (grave) dans les deux tableaux adjacents.	GRAVE
ក̣ ក̣ <sup>e</sup> ក̣ <sup>o</sup> ក̣ <sup>u</sup> ក̣ <sup>eu</sup> ក̣ <sup>ou</sup> Ka Kaa Kec Kei Ke Kee <small>1786 1787 1788 1789 1790 1791</small>		គ̣ គា គី គី <sup>e</sup> គី <sup>o</sup> គី <sup>u</sup> Kor Kir Kic Ki Keuc Keu <small>1792 1793 1794 1795 1796 1797</small>
ក̣ <sup>o</sup> ក̣ <sup>u</sup> ក̣ <sup>eu</sup> ក̣ <sup>ou</sup> ក̣ <sup>ou</sup> <sup>h</sup> Koc Ko Kour Kaeu Keua <small>1798 1799 1800 1801 1802</small>		គ̣ <sup>o</sup> គ̣ <sup>u</sup> គ̣ <sup>eu</sup> គ̣ <sup>ou</sup> គ̣ <sup>ou</sup> <sup>h</sup> Kouc Kou Kour Que Keua <small>1803 1804 1805 1806 1807</small>
ក̣ <sup>ir</sup> ក̣ <sup>eh</sup> ក̣ <sup>ae</sup> ក̣ <sup>ai</sup> ក̣ <sup>au</sup> Kir Keh Kae Kai Kau <small>1808 1809 1810 1811 1812</small>		គ̣ <sup>ir</sup> គ̣ <sup>eh</sup> គ̣ <sup>ae</sup> គ̣ <sup>ai</sup> គ̣ <sup>au</sup> Kir Keuh Ker Quey Quo <small>1813 1814 1815 1816 1817</small>
ក̣ <sup>aw</sup> ក̣ <sup>om</sup> ក̣ <sup>am</sup> ក̣ <sup>amm</sup> ក̣ <sup>ah</sup> Kao Kom Kam Kamm Kah <small>1818 1819 1820 1821 1822</small>		គ̣ <sup>aw</sup> គ̣ <sup>om</sup> គ̣ <sup>am</sup> គ̣ <sup>amm</sup> គ̣ <sup>ah</sup> Quov Koum Koum Koam Keah <small>1823 1824 1825 1826 1827</small>
ក̣ <sup>ess</sup> ក̣ <sup>oss</sup> ក̣ <sup>ess</sup> ក̣ <sup>ao</sup> Kess Koss Kess Kaoh <small>1828 1829 1830 1831</small>		គ̣ <sup>ess</sup> គ̣ <sup>oss</sup> គ̣ <sup>ess</sup> គ̣ <sup>ao</sup> Kiss Kouss Queh Quoh <small>1832 1833 1834 1835</small>

À ce stade-ci il ne faut pas non plus se décourager car ce ne sont que des syllabes, pas encore des vrais mots khmers. On peut déjà noter des répétitions, des double-emplois et ce sera ainsi pour les autres couples KHa-KHor, CHa-CHor, CHHa-CHHor, Da-Dor, DHa-DHor, Ta-Tor, THa-THor, Na-Nor, PHa-PHor et enfin Lor-La. Les débutants peuvent faire eux-mêmes des exercices écrits et

oraux sur toutes les 33 consonnes. Voici en prime 50 autres sons produits par Na et Nor :

**AIGUS** : Na, Naa, Nec, Nei, Ne, Nee, Noc, No, Nour, Naeu, Neua, Nir, Neh, Nai, Naii, Nau, Nao, Nom, Nam, Namm, Nass, Ness, Noss, Ness, Naoh.

**GRAVES** : Nor, Nir, Nic, Ni, Neuc, Neu, Nouc, Nou, Nour, Noeu, Neua, Nir, Neuh, Ner, Neui, Neuo, Neuv, Noum, Noum, Noam, Neuah, Niss, Nous, Nerss, Nourh.

KH/NHoum