

Notes on Academic Transcription

א	ʾ	אֲ	ā
ב	b	אֱ	a
ב	<u>b</u>	אֳ	ǎ
ג	g	אִ	ē
ג	<u>g</u>	אֵ	e
ד	d	אֶ	ě
ד	<u>d</u>	אִי	ī/i
ה	h	אֹ	ō
ו	v	אֻ	o
ז	z	אִי	ǝ
ח	ḥ	אִי	ū/u
ט	ṭ	אִי	ə
י	y		
כ	k	הֲ	â
כ	<u>k</u>	הֱ	ah
ל	l	הֳ	āh
מ	m	הִ	ēh
נ	n	הֵ	eh
ס	s	יִ	ê
ע	ʿ	יֵ	ê
פ	p	יִ	î
פ	<u>p</u>	יֹ	ô
צ	ṣ	יֹ	û
ק	q		
ר	r		
ש	š		
ש	ś		
ת	t		
ת	<u>t</u>		

Alef and ayin are essentially seats on which vowels sit. These are represented by half rings. Alef is open to the left and ayin is open on the right (ʾ vs. ʿ).

Begeḏkêfet consonants are marked as underlined (or underlined) when soft. Otherwise, they are unmarked (for example, *b* vs. *b*).

Long vowels are marked with macron (*ā*). Short vowels are unmarked. Reduced vowels are marked with chevron (*ǎ*). Vowel letters are marked with carrot (*â*). Segol-yod is marked with cedilla to distinguish it from tsere-yod (that is, *ê* vs. *ê*).

Heh is unmarked, whereas chet is marked with an underdot (*h* vs. *ḥ*).

Sibilants: Samech is unmarked (*s*) and is pronounced like regular *s* in English; tsadi has underdot (*ṣ*) and is pronounced as if it were *ts*; shin has an inverted carrot (*š*) and is pronounced like *sh*; and sin has only half of that carrot (*ś*) and is pronounced like regular *s* (like samech).

Furtive patach appears on a word ending in a long vowel and then a guttural. It is pronounced before the guttural even though it rests under it in Hebrew (and would normally be read after it). For example, **גַּבְּוֹהַ** has a patach before the guttural **וַ** that must be pronounced before it (*gāḇḇōah*).

There are two types of *dagesh* (a dot inside a letter). The *dagesh forte* represents the doubling of the consonant. Any *dagesh* within a letter that is not *begeḏkêfet* is automatically a *dagesh forte*. A *dagesh* within a *begeḏkêfet* letter may be either *dagesh forte* (doubling dot) or *dagesh lene* (representing the hard pronunciation of the letter). At the beginning of a word or after a silent *sheva*, it is *dagesh lene*. After a vowel, it is *dagesh forte*.

If there is another vowel on **וַ**, it is a doubled vav. Thus, **מַצְוֵוֹה** is *māṣavveh*, and the **וַ** there does not stand for *û*.