

English – Greek – Hebrew Approximations

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
A / H	B	Look to “K” or “S,” depending on the sound.	Δ	E	Φ	Γ	‘	I		K	Λ
α or η	β		δ	ε	φ	γ	‘	ι		κ	λ
א or אָ	ב		ד	א or אָ	פ	ג	ה	א or אֵ		כ or ק	ל

L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U
Λ	M	N	O or Ω	Π		P	Σ	T	Υ
λ	μ	ν	ο or ω	π		ρ	σ	τ	υ
ז	מ	נ	י or א	פ		ר	ש or ס	ט or ת	ו or אָ

V	W	X	Y	Z	Th	Ch	Sh	Ps	Ts
B		Ξ		Z	Θ	X		Ψ	
β		ξ		ζ	θ	χ		ψ	
ו or ב			י	ז	ת	ח	ש		צ

The top two rows are capital and lower-case Greek. The bottom row is Hebrew.

Not every English sound can be reproduced in Greek or Hebrew.

Certain combinations of Hebrew or Greek vowels can approximate certain English sounds and visa-versa, as in the first two letter of Jesus’ Greek name Ιησους (“ee-eh-sous”).

Greek and Hebrew also have *final forms*, where a letter has an alternate form when it ends a word.

For example, the third and the final letter in Jesus’ Greek name Ιησους are both the same letter.

Finally, Greek and Hebrew both utilize accent marks.

See the following pages for further details. See also BibTheo.com/languages for more information.

Greek Alphabet

Name	Upper & Lower Case		Sounds like	
Alpha	Α	α	<i>a</i>	Father
Beta	Β	β	<i>b</i>	Boy/Vader
Gamma	Γ	γ	<i>g</i>	Got
Delta	Δ	δ	<i>d</i>	Dog
Epsilon	Ε	ε	<i>e</i>	Get
Zeta	Ζ	ζ	<i>z</i>	Adze
Eta	Η	η	<i>e/a</i>	Obey/Late
Theta	Θ	θ	<i>th</i>	This
Iota	Ι	ι	<i>i</i>	Intrigue
Kappa	Κ	κ	<i>k</i>	Key
Lambda	Λ	λ	<i>l</i>	Law
Mu	Μ	μ	<i>m</i>	Mom
Nu	Ν	ν	<i>n</i>	New
Xi	Ξ	ξ	<i>ks</i>	Axe
Omicron	Ο	ο	<i>o</i>	Lot/obey
Pi	Π	π	<i>p</i>	Pie
Rho	Ρ	ρ	<i>r</i>	Rod
Sigma	Σ	σ / ς	<i>s</i>	Sink
Tau	Τ	τ	<i>t</i>	Talk
Upsilon	Υ	υ	<i>u</i>	Ü
Phi	Φ	Φ	<i>f</i>	phone
Chi	Χ	χ	<i>ch</i>	Loch
Psi	Ψ	ψ	<i>ps</i>	Lips
Omega	Ω	ω	<i>o</i>	Tone

Hebrew Alphabet

Name	Final				Dagesh		
	Form	Form	Sounds Like		Form	Sounds Like	
'alef	א		'	(silent)			
bet	ב		<u>b</u>	Vein	בּ	<i>b</i>	Ball
gimel	ג		<u>g</u>	Gale	גּ	<i>g</i>	Gale
dalet	ד		<u>d</u>	Dog	דּ	<i>d</i>	Dog
he	ה		<i>h</i>	Hail			
vav/ waw	ו		<i>v</i> <i>w</i>	Vein/ Wane			
zayin	ז		<i>z</i>	Zip			
het	ח		<i>h</i>	Loch			
tet	ט		<i>t</i>	Tag			
yod	י		<i>y</i>	Yada			
kaph	כ	ך	<u>k</u>	Loch	כּ	<i>k</i>	Keen
lamed	ל		<i>l</i>	Lane			
mem	מ	ם	<i>m</i>	Miss			
nun	נ	ן	<i>n</i>	Name			
samek	ס		<i>s</i>	Son			
'ayin	ע		'	(silent)			
pe	פ	ף	<u>p</u>	Fair	פּ	<i>p</i>	Pail
tsade	צ	ץ	<i>s</i>	Hats			
qof	ק		<i>q</i>	Keen			
resh	ר		<i>r</i>	Ruby			
sin	ש		<i>s</i>	Son			
shin	שׁ		<i>s</i>	Shack			
tav	ת		<u>t</u>	Bath			