

Pronunciation of Avesta:

Note:

HTML does not currently allow for the accurate representation of all Avesta graphemes. In particular, the shwa, and different forms of "n", "sh", and "t" are not distinguished. In these cases the following guide is only approximate.

VOWELS

a, e, i, o, u as in German, or:

a as *father*

e as *bed*

I as *it*

o as *molest*

u as *book*

â, ê, î, ô, û same as above except lengthened

aê as *bite*

ao as *out*

e as *but*

ê same except lengthened

â as *saw*

ã as French *enfant*, a nasalized 'a' e.g. *shyaothananâm*

ere much like 'pretty' (when pronounced 'peretty') e.g. *peresat*

CONSONANTS

c as *church*

h' as *h*, possibly stronger

ñ as *n*

ng as *sing*

ngh as *ng-h*

sh as *show*, e.g. *zarathushtra*

th as *thing*, e.g. *zarathushtra*

dh as *that* (voiced th)

v as Dutch *water* (a bilabial semivowel similar to Engl. v but not a fricative)

x as German *ach* or Scotch *loch* (often transcribed kh), e.g. *xshathra*

hv x (as above) with v immediately following e.g. *hvarena*

kh voiced x (often transcribed gh)

zh as *azure* (or French *je*)

All others are pronounced as in English.