

READ, WRITE, RECITE HEBREW

A Beginner's Guide to the Hebrew Alphabet

אבגדהוזחטיכלמנסעפצקרשת
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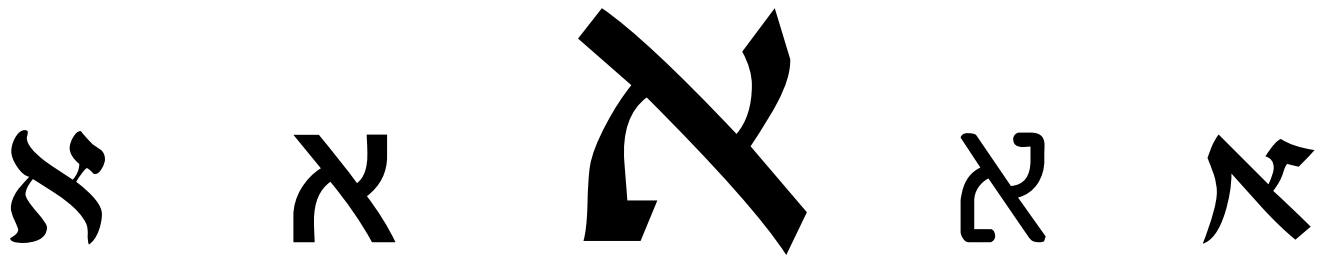
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מיכל גפט

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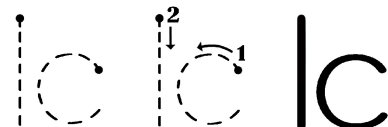
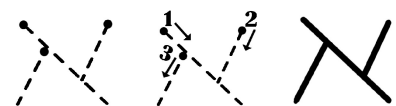
This is the letter *ALEPH*.
 It is the first letter in the *Aleph Bet*.
Aleph is a silent letter and represents the number one.



The handwritten Aleph looks like this:



Practice writing Aleph:



The printed letters are found on typewriters and keyboards and are seen in newspapers, books, magazines, prayer books and scriptures. They are used on anything that is printed for the masses.

א ב ג ד ה ו ז ח ט י כ ל מ נ ס ע פ צ ק ר ש ת

The handwritten letters are found anywhere that a person writes. So letters between people, notes taken, handwritten documents will all be written in the handwritten letters, or the "script" letters. This book will teach you both the printed *Aleph Bet* and the written *Aleph Bet*.

א ב ג ד ה ו ז ח ט י כ ל מ נ ס ע פ צ ק ר ש ת

name: *Aleph*
 sound: silent
 number: one

א ב ג ד ה ו ז ח ט י כ ל מ נ ס ע פ צ ק ר ש ת

Find and circle all 18 Alephs: (9 print & 9 handwritten)

א	ב	ג	ד	ה	ו	ז	ח
ט	י	כ	ל	מ	נ	ס	ע
פ	צ	ק	ר	ש	ת	א	ב
ג	ד	ה	ו	ז	ח	ט	י
כ	ל	מ	נ	ס	ע	פ	צ
ק	ר	ש	ת	א	ב	ג	ד
ה	ו	ז	ח	ט	י	כ	ל
מ	נ	ס	ע	פ	צ	ק	ר
ש	ת	א	ב	ג	ד	ה	ו

Vowel introduction:

The vowel system in Hebrew are markings under, sometimes above or beside the letters. The vowels are guides on how to read the words correctly. Vowels are used in literature and scriptures to clarify words and avoid mispronunciations.

We read Hebrew from right to left.

Here are your first vowels:

The Kamatz - ָ & The Patah - ַ

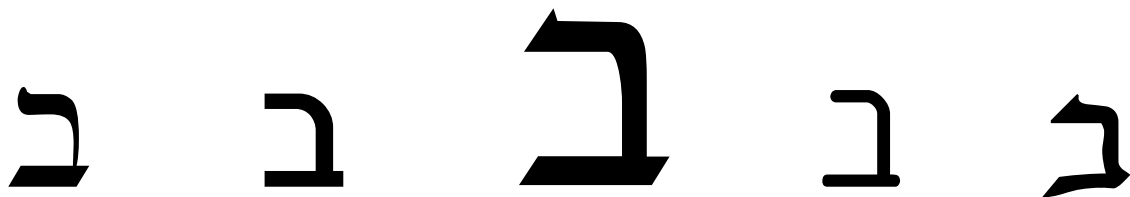
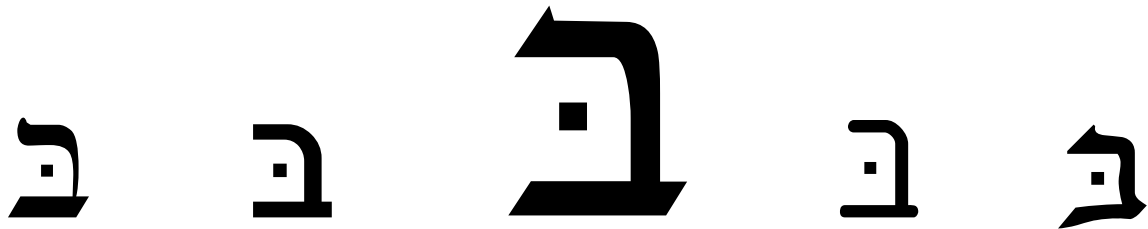
These vowels say "a" as in aqua. (Not as in apple.)



אָ אַ
ah ah

The Patah and the Kamatz are found at the bottom of the letter and is read in conjunction with the sound of the letter. We will practice this in the upcoming pages.



There is also a Hataf Patah, it looks like this: ֿ / ֿֿ. It also says "a" as in aqua.

This is the letter (family) *BET & VET*.
It is the second letter in the *Aleph Bet*.
Bet says "b" as in boy,
Vet says "v" as in van.
Bet and *Vet* represent the number two.



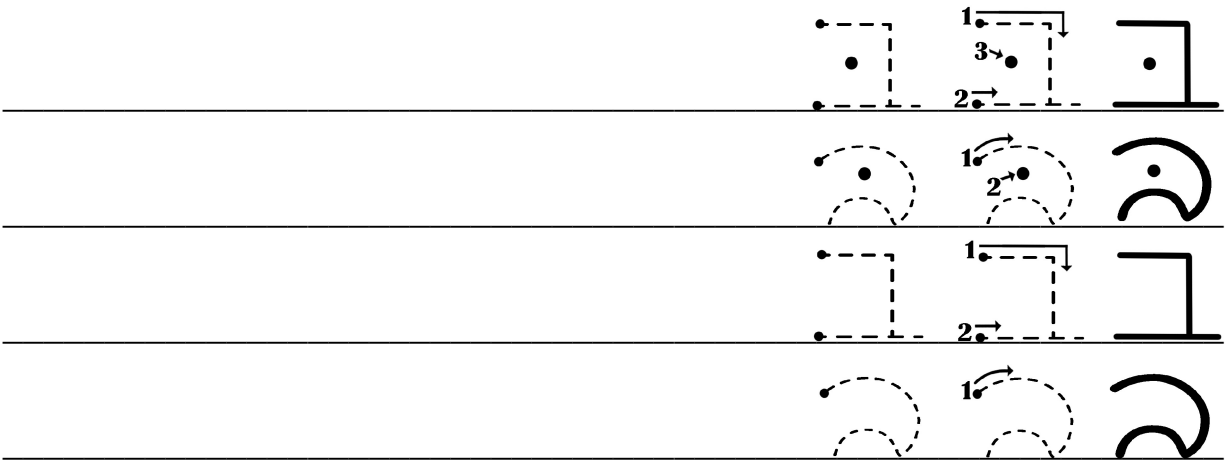
The handwritten  and  look like this:



The *Bet* and *Vet* are the same letter with two different pronunciations.
The dot (*dagesh*) in the letter changes its sound.
It will always have a *dagesh* at the beginning of the word () ,
it will never have a *dagesh* at the end of a word () ,
and in the middle could be either depending on the circumstance.

אבגד הוזח טיפל מנסע פצקרת

Practice writing *Bet* and *Vet*:



Read from right to left:
All mixed up: What letter am I?

א ב ב א ב א ב א ב



Practice reading Hebrew :

va ba a bav av ba a va ba va ba a



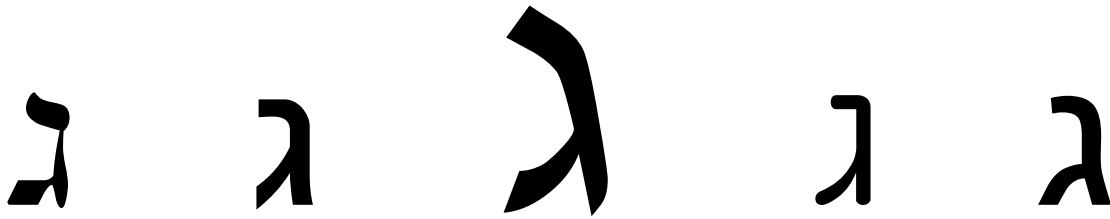
The dot you see in the letter *Bet* is called a “*dagesh*,” you will see them in future letters too. There are two types of *dagesh*, *dagesh kal* and *dagesh hazak*. You will learn about the different *dageshs* later in your studies.



Please visit www.HebrewBasics.com for audio/video companion to the *dagesh* and the letter families in the *Aleph Bet*. You can also see pages 96 and 97 for more information.

name: *Bet / Vet*
 sound: 'b' / 'v'
 number: two

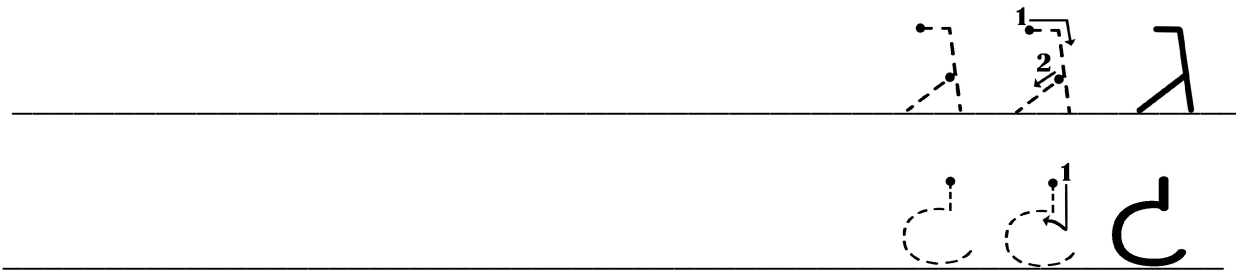
This is the letter *GIMMEL*.
 It is the third letter in the *Aleph Bet*.
Gimmel says "g" as in *girl* and represents the number three.



The handwritten ג looks like this:



Practice writing *Gimmel*:



*** ג ג ***

Here are a few Hebrew words for you to read:

back - גַּב*	coming - בָּא
dad - אָבָא	roof - גַּג

Note: When the *Aleph* is at the end of the word, it is silent.

*The *Gimmel* will always have a *dagesh* (dot) if it is at the beginning of a word, and sometimes in the middle of the word. In Modern Hebrew, the *dagesh* does not change the sound of the *Gimmel*.

name: *Gimmel*
 sound: 'g'
 number: three