

Simple Rules of Tajweed



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Contents

Introduction.....	1
Makhaarij	2
Special letters.....	4
Full mouth letters.....	5
Open & Closed letters.....	6
Ghunnah.....	7
Izhaar.....	8
Ikhfa.....	9
Idghaam.....	11
Qalb.....	12
Rules of Meem.....	13
Rules of Raa.....	14
Laam of Allah.....	15
Qalqalah.....	16
Mudd.....	18
Symbols of waqf.....	19
The rules of waqf (STOPPING).....	20

Introduction

Tajweed literally means to adorn and beautify. In the context of the recitation of the Quraan Shareef, tajweed refers to the correct pronunciation of the letters and applying the various rules of recitation.

The importance of Tajweed cannot be overemphasized. The recitation of the Qur'aan Shareef in salaah is compulsory. Often, due to not reciting the Qur'aan Shareef with Tajweed, the salaah is affected. It is therefore necessary to learn Tajweed so that the Qur'aan Shareef may be recited correctly.

Arabic is a very delicate language. A slight mispronunciation can completely change the meaning. The word Qalb means heart. If the Qaaf in Qalb is not pronounced correctly and instead, it is pronounced as a kaaf, the meaning changes to "dog!" In Surah Kausar the word "wan Har" means sacrifice. If the Haa is not pronounced correctly the meaning changes to "scold!" It is thus obvious that the rules of Tajweed must be applied in the recitation of the Qur'aan Shareef.

There are many detailed laws of tajweed which take a long time to study. However this booklet contains the most basic laws which, if learnt thoroughly, will enable a learner on the Maktab level to recite the Quraan Shareef correctly. **It must nevertheless be remembered that the correct application of the rules of tajweed depends upon listening to its application by someone who has learnt how to recite the Qur'aan Shareef with Tajweed.** Thus the teacher must clearly recite the various examples to the children, highlighting the particular rule that is being applied therein. The children must then be made to repeatedly practice the examples in the book with additional examples from the Qur'aan Shareef in order to fully grasp the application of the rule.

Simple rules of tajweed

Makhaarij of Letters

Letters	Pronounced from:
Throat Letters	
خ غ	The TOP of the Throat.
ح ع	The MIDDLE of the Throat.
ه ء	The BOTTOM of the Throat.
Lip Letters	
ب	When the wet part of both lips meet.
م	When the dry part of both lips meet.
و	The incomplete meeting of both lips.
ف	The edge of the top teeth touching the bottom lip not forcefully.
ق	The backmost portion of the tongue touches the palate.
ك	The back portion of the tongue touches the palate a little in front of the makhraj of ق
ل	The SIDE of the TONGUE touches the gums of the Molars from one side to the other.
ن	The SIDE of the TONGUE touches the gums of the canines.

Simple rules of tajweed

Letters	Pronounced from:
ر	The tip of the tongue touching the roots of the top four front teeth.
ض	The SIDE of the TONGUE touching the upper back teeth
ظ ذ ث	The TIP of the TONGUE touching the edge of the top two front teeth.
ط ت د	The TIP of the TONGUE touching the roots of the top two front teeth.
ص س ز	The TIP of the TONGUE touching the edge of the bottom two front teeth & a bit of the top teeth.
ج ش ي	The CENTRE of the TONGUE touching the palate.

Simple rules of tajweed

Makhaarij

(Correct pronunciation of letters)

ط	ث		ع	ء	أ
هـ	ح		ص	س	ش
ض	د		خ	غ	خ
ك	ق		ظ	ز	ذ

Special letters

Do not confuse the letters in the first row with the similar sounding letters in the second row.

ق	ض	ط	ص	ظ	ذ	ث	خ	ح	ع
ك	د	ت	س	ز	ز	س	غ	هـ	ء

Full Mouth Letters

These seven letters will always be read with a full mouth.

(خُصَّ ضَغَطٌ قِطٌّ) خ ص ض غ ط ق ظ

خ	خَالِدِينَ	أَخِرِ	يَخْرُجُ
ص	صَلَاةٌ	صِرَاطٌ	يَصْنَعُ
ض	رَضِيَ	وَالضُّحَى	تَضْلِيلٍ
غ	مُغِيرَاتِ	أَغْنَى	تَبْتَغَى
ط	وَالطَّارِقِ	مَطْلَعٌ	بَطْشٌ
ق	بِالْحَقِّ	يَقُولُ	فَوْقَهُمْ
ظ	ظَهَرِ	أَظْلَمَ	الْعَظِيمِ

Simple rules of tajweed

Open Letters

أُ وُ يَ

1. If there is fathah before alif then it is called alif-maddah.
2. If there is dammah before wāw sakin then it is called as wāw-maddah.
3. If there is kasrah before yā then it is called yā-maddah.

Pull the letter for the duration of one Alif

أَدْبَارَهَا	نَفَثَ	زَلْزَالَهَا	اَ
مَغْضُوبٍ	يُنْفِقُونَ	قُولُوا	وُ
يَلِيتَنِي	مُسْتَقِيمٌ	جَحِيمٌ	يَ

Closed Letters

Be careful not to drag a closed letter

رَبُّكَ	كَيْفَ فَعَلَ	أَلَمْ تَرَ
وَأَرْسَلَ عَلَيْهِمُ	يَعْلَمُ مَا بَيْنَ أَيْدِيهِمْ	
فَنِصْفُ مَا	خَرَجْنَ فَلَا	قَبْلَ أَنْ

Ghunnah

Whenever Noon or Meem has a Tashdeed, make Ghunnah (a long nasal sound).

فَلَمَّا	صُمِّ	إِنَّكَ	إِلَى النَّاسِ	
جَنَّةٍ	جَنَاتٍ	إِنَّ	فَإِنَّمَا	النَّارُ
عَمَّ	ثُمَّ	مِمَّا	فَلَمَّا	حَمَّا
حَمَّالَةَ	وَأَمَّا	بِالْخُنُسِ	لَتُسْئَلُنَّ	
فَإِنَّهَا	إِنِّي	إِنَّا لَمَّا	وَالنَّهَارِ	
وَلَنَبْلُوَنَّكُمْ	مُحَمَّدٌ	مِنَ النَّاسِ		

Izhaar

If any of the following letters come after a Noon Saakin (نْ) or Tanween (ـَـ) , Izhaar will be made.

ء ه ع ح غ خ

Izhaar means to recite without a nasal sound (without pulling).

كَفَّارٍ أَثِيمٍ	مِنْ أَنْصَارٍ	مَنْ أَمَّنَ	ء
نُوحًا هَدَيْنَا	مِنْهُ	يَنْهَوْنَ	ه
شَيْءٍ عَلِيمٍ	مَنْ عَمِلَ	أَنْعَمْتَ	ع
عَلِيمٌ حَكِيمٌ	تَنْحِتُونَ	وَأَنْحَرُ	ح
قَوْمًا غَيْرًا	فَسَيُغْضَوْنَ	مِنْ غَضَبٍ	غ
عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ	لِمَنْ خَشِيَ	مِنْ خَوْفٍ	خ

Simple rules of tajweed

Ikhfaa

IKHFAA: If any of the following letters appear after Noon Saakin or Tanween, Ikhfaa (a nasal sound equal to one alif) should be made.

ت ث ج د ذ ز س ش ص ض ط ظ ف ق ك

Example (ج)	Example (ث)	Example (ت)
مِنْ جُوعٍ	مَنْ ثَقُلَتْ	وَأَنْ تَغْفِرَ لَهُمْ
بِخَلْقٍ جَدِيدٍ	بِجَهَالَةٍ ثُمَّ	يَوْمَئِذٍ تُحَدِّثُ
Example (ز)	Example (ذ)	Example (د)
فَمَنْ زُحِرَ	عَنْ ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ	أَنْ دَعَوْتُكُمْ
نَفْسًا زَكِيَّةً	نَفْسٍ ذَائِقَةً	قِنْوَانٍ دَانِيَةً
Example (ص)	Example (ش)	Example (س)
يَنْصُرُونَهُ	إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ	إِنْسَانٍ
رِجَالٌ صَدَقُوا	عَذَابًا شَدِيدًا	خَمْسَةً سَادِسُهُمْ

Simple rules of tajweed

Ikhfaa

Example (ظ)	Example (ط)	Example (ض)
فَيَنْظُرُوا كَيْفَ	مِنْ طِينٍ	مَنْ ضَعْفٍ
ظَلًّا ظَلِيلًا	بَلَدَةٍ طَيِّبَةٍ	قُوَّةٍ ضَعْفًا
Example (ك)	Example (ق)	Example (ف)
فَإِنْ كَانَ لَكُمْ	وَمَنْ قَتَلَ	أَوْ انْفِرُوا
مُدْخَلًا كَرِيمًا	نَصِيبٌ ^{لَا} قَالُوا	حَسَنَةً فَمِنْ

Idghaam

If after noon saakin (نْ) or tanween (ـــــــــــــــــ) the letters

ی ن م و appear then make idghaam (join the letters without pronouncing the noon Saakin or tanween) and make ghunnah (nasal sound).

ی	مَنْ يَقُولُ	مَنْ يَشَاءُ	خَيْرًا يَرَهُ
ن	مِنْ نَبِيٍّ	مِنْ نَارٍ	عَامِلَةٌ نَاصِبَةٌ
م	مِنْ مِّثْلِهِ	مِنْ مَّاءٍ	رَسُولٌ مِنَ اللَّهِ
و	أَفَمَنْ وَعَدْنَا	مِنْ وَرَاءِهِمْ	سِرَاجًا وَهَّاجًا

If after noon saakin or tanween the letters ل ر appear then join the letters and do not make ghunnah.

ل	مِنْ لَدُنْكَ	يُبَيِّنُ لَنَا	جَنَّتِ لَهُمْ
ر	مِنْ رَبِّكَ	عَنْ رَبِّهِمْ	عِيشَةٍ رَاضِيَةٍ

Qalb

If the letter ب appears after Noon Saakin or Tanween, Qalb will be made. Qalb means that the Noon or Tanween will change into a م and recited with Ghunnah.

Read

مَمْ بَخِلْ

مِمْ بَعْدِ

مِمْ بَقْلَهَا

مِمْ بُيُوتِهِنَّ

أَبْدَمْ بِمَا

نَفْسِمْ بِمَا

مُنْفَطِرُمْ بِهِ

Written

مَنْ بَخِلْ

مِنْ بَعْدِ

مِنْ بَقْلَهَا

مِنْ بُيُوتِهِنَّ

أَبْدَأْ بِمَا

نَفْسٍ بِمَا

مُنْفَطِرٌ بِهِ

Rules of Meem

The Meem Saakin has three rules

IDGHAAM: If a Meem appears after Meem Saakin, ghunna will be made.

يَاتِيَنَّكُمْ مِّنِّي

لَكُمْ مَا

إِنَّهُمْ مَعَكُمْ

إِلَيْكُمْ مُرْسَلُونَ

IKHFAA: If a Baa appears after Meem Saakin, Ikhfaa will be made

رَبَّهُمْ بِهِمْ

وَمَا هُمْ بِمُؤْمِنِينَ

فَأَحْكُم بَيْنَهُمْ

يَعْتَصِمَ بِاللَّهِ

IZHAAR: If any letter besides Baa and Meem appears after Meem Saakin, do not make ghunnah.

فَلَهُمْ أَجْرٌ

أَلَمْ يَجْعَلْ كَيْدَهُمْ

لَكُمْ دِينُكُمْ

Rules of Raa

Raa with a Fat-ha (Zabar) or Dhammah (Pesh)

OR

**Raa Saakin with a Fat-ha or Dhamma before it
will be read with a Full Mouth.**

تَرْمِيهِمْ

وَأَرْسَلَ

طَيَّرًا

أَلَمْ تَرَ

يُرْزَقُونَ

وَأْمُرْ

دُكَّتِ الْأَرْضُ

ضَرَبَ

بِرِّ

رَبِّي

**Raa with a Kasrah or Raa Saakin with a Kasrah before
it will be read with an Empty Mouth.**

مِنْ شَرِّ

فِي نَارٍ

وَأَقْتَرَبَ

وَطُورٍ

ذَكَرْتُ أَوْ أَنتَى

مُدَّكَرٍ

نَاصِرٍ

مِنْ خَيْرٍ

وَاعْفِرْ

فَانْتَصِرْ

أَنْذِرْهُمْ

شَرِبَ

Laam of Allah

If a Dhammah (Pesh) or Fat-ha (Zabar) comes before the word "Allah", it will be read with a **Full Mouth (Tafkheem)**.

هُوَ اللَّهُ

نَصْرُ اللَّهِ

إِلَّا اللَّهُ

خَتَمَ اللَّهُ

رَسُولُ اللَّهِ

رَضِيَ اللَّهُ

عَلَى اللَّهِ

If a Kasrah (Zer) comes before the word "Allah", it will be read with an **Empty Mouth (Tarqeeq)**.

فِي اللَّهِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ

أَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ

مِنْ عِنْدِ اللَّهِ

قُلِ اللَّهُ

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ

بَايَاتِ اللَّهِ

Qalqalah

If any of the letters of ق ط ب ج د (قُطْبُ جَدِّ)
has a saakin / jazam, Qalqalah will be made.
Qalqalah means to make an echoing sound.

ق	خَلَقْتَنِي مِنْ نَّارٍ وَخَلَقْتَهُ	بَقِرٍ
ط	خَطِيفَ الْخُطْفَةِ	نُطْفَةٍ
ب	فَسَجَدُوا إِلَّا إِبْلِيسَ	صَبْرٌ
ج	فَإِنَّمَا هِيَ زَجْرَةٌ	فَجْرٌ
د	جَعَلَ أَدْعِيَاءَكُمْ	لَقَدْ

Simple rules of tajweed

The same rule applies if the Saakin is due to Waqf (stopping).
(the last letter of the Aayat will be read with a saakin)

ق	فَلَقِ	حَرِيقُ	حَقُّ
ط	بَاسِطِ	مُحِيطُ	بِالْقِسْطِ
ب	لَهَبِ	حِسَابِ	كَسَبِ
ج	مِزَاجُ	حَرَاجُ	بُرُوجُ
د	قُعُودِ	لَكْنُودُ	الصَّمَدُ

Take care: When making Qalqalah, take care that a Harkat (Zabar, Zer or Pesh) is not created. حَبْلٌ should not be read as حَبْلُ

Simple rules of tajweed

Mudd

There are two types of Mudd:

1. Short Mudd 

2. Long Mudd 

Short Mudd - Pull for 2 Alifs

Long Mudd - Pull for 4 Alifs

وَرِثَهُ أَبَوُهُ

أَتَيْنَا آلَ

هَآئِثُمْ

اللَّهُ

سَبَّحَتْ

بَنِي إِسْرَآءِيلَ

جَاءَ الْحَقُّ

شَرَّ الدَّوَابِّ

قُلْ ءَ الذَّكَرَيْنِ

لِلْفُقَرَاءِ

مُدَّهَامَتْنِ

حَآجُّونِي

جَاءَتْهُمْ

مَنْ يَشَاءُ

نِسَاءً

يُسَ

كَهَيْعَصَ

حُمَ عَسَقَ

لَا إِلَى هَؤُلَاءِ وَلَا إِلَى هَؤُلَاءِ

وَمَا تَشَاءُونَ إِلَّا أَنْ يَشَاءَ اللَّهُ

Symbols of Waqf (Stopping)

م	This sign indicates that you <u>must</u> stop.
وَأَمَّا الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا فَيَقُولُونَ مَاذَا أَرَادَ اللَّهُ بِهَذَا مَثَلًا ۖ يُضِلُّ بِهِ كَثِيرًا ۖ لَا وَيَهْدِي بِهِ كَثِيرًا ۚ وَمَا يُضِلُّ بِهِ إِلَّا الْفَاسِقِينَ ﴿٢٦﴾	
ط ج	These signs indicate that the stop is emphasised.
وَلَيْسَ الْبِرُّ بِأَنْ تَأْتُوا الْبُيُوتَ مِنْ ظُهُورِهَا وَلَكِنَّ الْبِرَّ مَنِ اتَّقَى ۚ وَأَتُوا الْبُيُوتَ مِنْ أَبْوَابِهَا ۚ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُونَ ﴿١٨٩﴾	
ص صل ز ق	These signs indicate that you have the option to stop.
يَغْفِرُ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ ۚ وَهُوَ أَرْحَمُ الرَّحِيمِينَ حَلَلًا طَيِّبًا ۚ وَاشْكُرُوا	
س سكتة وقفة	These signs indicate that a slight pause should be made without breaking the breath.
مِنْ مَرَقَدِنَا ۚ هَذَا مَا كَلَّا بَلْ سَاءَ مَا رَانَ عَلَى	
صلى لا	Do not stop. If it comes in the middle of the Aayat on it's own
كَذَابٍ آلِ فِرْعَوْنَ ۖ وَالَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ ۚ	

Rules of Waqf (Stopping)

1. The general rule of waqf is to remove the harkat of the last letter and replace it with a sukoon / jazam.

دَلَوْهُ	غَيْرِهِ	فَلَقِ	كَسَبَ	رُسُلُ	لَهَبْ	أَحَدٌ
↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
دَلَوْهُ	غَيْرِهِ	فَلَقِ	كَسَبْ	رُسُلْ	لَهَبْ	أَحَدْ

2. If the last letter has a fat-hatain / do zabar, take out one fatha / zabar and read the alif after it. (If there isn't an alif, add one).

جَزَاءٌ	نِدَاءٌ	نَشْرًا	قَلِيلًا	حِسَابًا	يُسْرًا	حَمِيمًا
↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
جَزَاءَا	نِدَاءَا	نَشْرَا	قَلِيلَا	حِسَابَا	يُسْرَا	حَمِيمَا

3. If the last letter is a round taa (ة ة), change it to a (small) haa (ه ه) and put a sukoon / jazam on it.

بَقْرَةٌ	حَامِيَّةٌ	عَالِيَةٌ	تَذْكِرَةٌ	رَاجِفَةٌ	غَاشِيَةٌ	جَنَّةٌ
↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
بَقْرَهُ	حَامِيَّتَهُ	عَالِيَّتَهُ	تَذْكِرَتَهُ	رَاجِفَتَهُ	غَاشِيَتَهُ	جَنَّتَهُ

Simple rules of tajweed

4. If the last letter is an alif with a fatha / zabar before it or if the last letter has a sukoon / jazam or the last letter has a fatha muqaddara / khara zabar, no change will take place when making waqf.

قَلٰ	سَجٰى	حُشِرَتْ	سُيِّرَتْ	دَسَّاهَا	بَنَاهَا	تَلَاهَا
↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
قَلٰ	سَجٰى	حُشِرَتْ	سُيِّرَتْ	دَسَّاهَا	بَنَاهَا	تَلَاهَا

5. If Huroof-e-Madd (ا و ا) comes before the last letter, then pull slightly when making waqf.

قُرَيْشٍ	خَوْفٍ	نَسْتَعِينُ	شَكُورٌ	بَيَانَ	الرَّحْمَنُ
↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
قُرَيْشٍ	خَوْفٍ	نَسْتَعِينُ	شَكُورٌ	بَيَانَ	الرَّحْمَنُ

6. If the last letter has a tashdeed, pull a little when making waqf.

مَفْرٌ	جَانٌّ	حَجٌّ	مُضَارٌّ	مَسِّ	فَطْلٌ	تَبٌّ
↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
مَفْرٌ	جَانٌّ	حَجٌّ	مُضَارٌّ	مَسِّ	فَطْلٌ	تَبٌّ

Simple rules of tajweed

Notes

[illegible]