

## L'alfabeto italiano

A - a	I - i	S - esse	J - i lunga
B - bi	L - elle	T - ti	K - cappa
C - ci	M - emme	U - u	W - doppia vu
D - di	N - enne	V - vu	X - ics
E - e	O - o	Z - zeta	Y - ipsilon (i greca)
F - effe	P - pi		
G - gi	Q - cu		
H - acca	R - erre		

## Gli accenti

L'accento acuto - é                      perché, ventitré

L'accento grave - à è ì ù ò              caffè, città, università, virtù,  
tassì, più, può

## Vocali

a	<b>ah</b>
e	<b>ay</b> , as in "say", or sometimes the shorter form <b>eh</b>
i	<b>ee</b>
o	<b>oh</b> , or sometimes the shorter form <b>aw</b>
u	<b>oo</b> , as in "root"

**Caution:** when *i* follows the letters *g* or *c*, it usually does not behave as a vowel, but instead acts to soften the preceding consonant (see *ci* [+*a,o,u*] and *gi* [+*a,o,u*] below).

## Consonanti

c [+a,o,u]	<b>k</b>
c [+e,i]	<b>ch</b> , as in "church"
ci [+a,o,u]	<b>ch</b> , as in "church", e.g. <i>Luciano</i> = <b>loo-<u>chah</u>-noh</b>
ch, cch [+e,i]	<b>k</b> , always (e.g. <i>scherzo</i> = <b>skehr-tsoh</b> , <i>Gianni Schicchi</i> = <b>jahn-nee skee-kee</b> ); do NOT confuse with German <i>sch</i>
g [+a,o,u]	<b>g</b> , hard as in "go"
g [+e,i]	<b>j</b> , as in "jello"
gi [+a,o,u]	<b>j</b> , as in "jello", e.g. <i>Giovanni</i> = <b>jo-<u>vahn</u>-nee</b> , <i>Giulini</i> = <b>joo-<u>lee</u>-nee</b>
gh [+e,i]	<b>g</b> , always hard, e.g. <i>Respighi</i> = <b>rehs-<u>pee</u>-gee</b> , NOT <b>rehs-<u>pee</u>-jee</b>
gl	<b>l</b> , e.g. <i>gli</i> = <b>lee</b> (definite article), <i>Pagliacci</i> = <b>pahl-<u>lyah</u>-chee</b>
gn	<b>ny</b> , like Spanish ñ, e.g. <i>Bologna</i> = <b>bo-<u>loh</u>-nya</b> ,
ll	<b>l</b> , perfectly normal though a bit elongated (NOT like Spanish!)
qu	<b>kw</b> , just like English
r	<b>r</b> : trilled
s	<b>z</b> , when it falls between vowels (e.g. <i>Busoni</i> = <b>boo-<u>zoh</u>-nee</b> ) or before a voiced consonant ( <i>sguardo</i> = <b>z<u>gwar</u>-do</b> ); otherwise <b>s</b> (e.g. <i>Scarlatti</i> = <b>skar-<u>laht</u>-tee</b> )
sc [+a,o,u]	<b>sk</b>
sc [+e,i]	<b>sh</b> as in "fish"
sci [+a,o,u]	<b>sh</b> as in "fish"
sch [+e,i]	<b>sk</b>
z	<b>ts</b> or <b>dz</b> , pick whichever seems appropriate