

Basic Syllable Pattern Chart *

Every syllable has a vowel sound and a vowel spelling.

Closed Syllable

examples

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Single vowel closed in by one or more consonants• Short vowel sound	map best wish cot hutch van/ish trum/pet
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Open Syllable

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ends in one vowel• Long vowel sound	she hi no flu ra/ven mu/sic
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Silent-e Syllable

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ends in a vowel-consonant-e pattern• Long vowel sound; the e is not sounded	crane ride stroke huge de/bate ex/cite
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Vowel Team Syllable

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two or more adjacent letters (vowels and/or consonants) that represent one vowel sound• Variable vowel sound	bread raid fault toy shout in/sight sev/en/teen
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Vowel-r Syllable

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One vowel before r• The /r/ sound overtakes the preceding vowel sound	star fern shirt sport burst hor/net fur/ther
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Consonant-le Syllable

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final syllable in 2+ syllable word; never accented• Ends in consonant -le	ta/ble nee/dle mir/a/cle throt/tle crum/ple
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Expected exception: schwa

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Indistinct vowel sound in unaccented syllables• Most often /ŭ/ or /ĭ/ sound	a/lone prob/lem fam/i/ly wis/dom a/nal/y/sis
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**This chart includes basic syllable patterns. Additional patterns and complexities within each syllable type exist when considering a full scope of syllabication knowledge.*

There are a few words that don't contain a vowel sound (eg, psst, hmm) and some syllables that don't have a vowel letter when spelled (eg, sarcasm).

Professional development in structured literacy deepens knowledge in this and other layers of language necessary to best promote reading comprehension and written expression.