

Tajweed rules chart

The recitation of Hafs from 'Asim. Quran text in Uthmani script, from Quran.com.

Color key: مَا **Lengthen (madd)** (red, double underline) نَ **Nasal sound (ghunnah)** (green, wavy underline)
فِي **Bounce (qalqalah)** (blue, dotted underline) ص **Heavy (tafkhim)** (dark blue, solid underline)
ط **Written, not pronounced** (grey, struck through) ح **Clear or light: read as written** (black, dashed underline)

Colors follow the color-coded tajweed mushaf printed by Dar Al-Maarifah: red for madd, green for nasal sounds, dark blue for a heavy ra, light blue for qalqalah, grey for letters that are not pronounced. We darken them so they can be read on white, and also draw the heavy lam and the heavy letters in dark blue. Printed mushafs differ, so check the key in yours.

Rule	Letters	How to read it	Example
Noon sakinah and tanween			
Izhar	إِظْهَارِ the six throat letters ء ه ع ح غ خ	Say the noon clearly and move straight on, with no nasal hold.	أُيَعِّمَتْ Recited: <i>an'amta</i> · Quran 1:7
Idgham with ghunnah	إِدْغَامُ يَغْنَّةً across two words only ي ن م و	Merge the noon into the next word's first letter and hold the nasal sound for 2 counts.	فَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ Recited: <i>famay-ya'mal</i> · Quran 99:7
Idgham without ghunnah	إِدْغَامُ يَغْيِرُ غُنَّةً across two words only ل ر	Drop the noon: the ل or ر after it is doubled, with no nasal sound.	وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ Recited: <i>wa-lam yakul-lahū</i> · Quran 112:4
Iqlab	إِقْلَابِ the noon turns into a meem ب	Say a meem instead of the noon, lips lightly closed, and hold the nasal sound for 2 counts.	لِيُنَبِّذَنَّ Recited: <i>la-yumbadhanna</i> · Quran 104:4
Ikhfa	إِخْفَاءِ the other 15 letters ت ث ج د ذ ز س ش ص ض ط ظ ف ق ك	Hide the noon: the tongue does not press the gum ridge, and a nasal sound runs for 2 counts into the next letter.	مِنْ شَرِّ Recited: <i>min sharri</i> · Quran 113:2
Meem sakinah			
Ikhfa shafawi	إِخْفَاءُ شَفَوِيّ a meem sakinah before it ب	Close the lips lightly on the meem and hold a nasal sound for 2 counts.	تَرْمِيهِمْ بِحِجَارَةٍ Recited: <i>tarmīhim bi-hijāratin</i> · Quran 105:4
Idgham shafawi	إِدْغَامُ شَفَوِيّ a meem sakinah before it م	The two meems merge into one doubled meem, with a nasal sound held for 2 counts.	وَأَمَانَهُمْ مِّنْ خَوْفٍ Recited: <i>wa-āmanahum-min khawf</i> · Quran 106:4
Izhar shafawi	إِظْهَارُ شَفَوِيّ a meem sakinah before any letter except ب and م م	Close the lips and say the meem clearly, with no nasal hold. Take most care before و and ف.	أَلَمْ تَرَ Recited: <i>a-lam tara</i> · Quran 105:1
Ghunnah			
Ghunnah	غُنَّةً noon or meem with a shadda نَّ مَّ	Hold the nasal sound for 2 counts.	يَرْبِّ النَّاسِ Recited: <i>bi-rabbi n-nās</i> · Quran 114:1
Qalqalah			
Qalqalah sughra	قَلْقَلَةٌ صُغْرَى with a sukun, inside a word ق ط ب ج د	Release the letter with a light bounce instead of a dead stop.	أَقْرَأْ Recited: <i>iqra'</i> · Quran 96:1
Qalqalah kubra	قَلْقَلَةٌ كُبْرَى when you stop on the letter ق ط ب ج د	Stopping on the letter makes the bounce stronger.	يَرْبِّ الْفَلَقِ Recited: <i>bi-rabbi l-falaq</i> · Quran 113:1

Rule	Letters	How to read it	Example
Madd (lengthening)			
Natural madd (madd tabi'i) مَدَّ طَبِيعِي	ا و ي after a matching vowel, with no hamza or sukun after it	Hold the long vowel for 2 counts.	مَالِك Recited: <i>māliki</i> · Quran 1:4
Connected madd (muttasil) مَدَّ وَاجِبٌ مُتَّصِلٌ	ا و ي + ء a hamza after the long vowel, in the same word	Hold the long vowel for 4 or 5 counts.	إِذَا جَاءَ Recited: <i>idhā jā'a</i> · Quran 110:1
Separated madd (munfasil) مَدَّ جَائِزٌ مُنْفَصِلٌ	ا و ي + ء the long vowel ends a word, a hamza starts the next	Hold it for 4 or 5 counts (2 by another route of Hafs), the same length every time.	إِنَّا أَعْطَيْنَاكَ Recited: <i>innā a'ṭaynāka</i> · Quran 108:1
Madd before a stop ('arid lil-sukun) مَدَّ عَارِضٌ لِلْسُّكُونِ	ا و ي a long vowel before the last letter, when you stop	Hold the long vowel for 2, 4 or 6 counts when you stop.	رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ Recited: <i>rabbi l-'ālamīn</i> · Quran 1:2
Leen madd مَدَّ اللَّيْنِ	و ي aw or ay after a fatha, when you stop	Hold the aw or ay for 2, 4 or 6 counts when you stop.	لَا يَلْفِ قُرَيْشٍ Recited: <i>li-lāfi quraysh</i> · Quran 106:1
Badal madd مَدَّ الْبَدَلِ	ا و ي + ء a long vowel straight after a hamza	Hold it for 2 counts only.	إِلَّا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا Recited: <i>illā lladhīna āmanū</i> · Quran 103:3
Necessary madd (lazim) مَدَّ لَزِمٍ	ا و ي a long vowel before a shadda or a fixed sukun	Always hold it for 6 counts, whether you stop or carry on.	وَلَا الضَّالِّينَ Recited: <i>wa-laḍ-ḍallīn</i> · Quran 1:7
Heavy and light letters			
Heavy lam in Allah لَامٌ مُفَخَّمَةٌ	ل in اللهُ after a fatha or a damma	Say the lam full and deep, with the back of the tongue raised.	قُلْ هُوَ اللهُ أَحَدٌ Recited: <i>qul huwa llāhu aḥad</i> · Quran 112:1
Light lam in Allah لَامٌ مُرَقَّقَةٌ	ل in اللهُ after a kasra	Say the lam thin, like any other lam.	بِسْمِ اللهِ Recited: <i>bismi llāhi</i> · Quran 1:1
Heavy ra رَاءٌ مُفَخَّمَةٌ	ر with a fatha or a damma	Say the ra full, with the back of the tongue raised.	لِرَبِّكَ Recited: <i>li-rabbika</i> · Quran 108:2
Light ra رَاءٌ مُرَقَّقَةٌ	ر with a kasra, or with a sukun after a kasra	Say the ra thin, with the tongue low.	الْقَارِعَةَ Recited: <i>al-qāri'ah</i> · Quran 101:1
Heavy letters (isti'la) حُرُوفُ الْإِسْتِعْلَاءِ	خ ص ض غ ط ق ظ always heavy	Raise the back of the tongue, so the sound comes out full and deep.	الصِّرَاطِ الْمُسْتَقِيمِ Recited: <i>aṣ-ṣirāṭa l-mustaqīm</i> · Quran 1:6

A chart reminds you of the rules. A teacher who hears you recite is how you learn them.

Rules: Tuhfat al-Atfal by al-Jamzuri and al-Muqaddimah al-Jazariyya by Ibn al-Jazari. Counts for Hafs (via ash-Shatibiyya): Ghayat al-Murid by 'Atiyya Qabil Nasr. A count is about the time it takes to fold or open a finger quickly.