

Hebrew Consonants, Romanization, and Numeric Value

ו	y*	6
וו	y*	
ז	z	7
זו	n	
ר	r	200
רד	d	4
כ	k	
כח	kh	
פ	p	
פח	f	
ג	g	3
גח	n	50
ב	b	
בח	v	2
כ	k	
כח	kh	20
פ	p	
פח	f	80

ה	h	5
הח	h	8
ת	t	
תח	t	400
מ	m	40
מח	ṭ	9
ס	m	
סח	s	60
ע	‘	70
עח	ts	90
ץ	ts	
ש	sh/ś	300
שח	sh	
שח	ś	
י	y*	10
יא	’/-	1
ל	l	30
לח	ḵ	100

* These two letters are also used as vowels (or parts of vowels). The romanization shown is only used if the letter is a consonant.

All the consonants sit on the baseline, except for these, which extend *below* the baseline: ך, ך, ך, ך, ך, ך, and ך; and the following consonant, which sits *above* the baseline: י.

The following pairs of consonants are the regular form/final form (used at the end of words): כ/ך, פ/ף, מ/ם, נ/ן, ש/ש, ש/ש, and צ/ץ.

Hebrew Vowels and Romanization

יְ	○i	יְ	○e	אֲ	○a
יִ	○i	יִ	○e	אֱ	○a/o
יֶ	○e	יֶ	○u	אִ	○o
יֵ	○e	יֵ	○e	אֻ	○o
יֹ	○e/-	יֹ	○ai	אֹ	o
		יָ	○a	אֻ	u

(continued from page 397)

symbols were written. In actual practice, texts in Hebrew are usually printed without the vowels (such texts are called “unpointed”), except for biblical and liturgical texts and texts intended for juvenile readers—and there is where the theological cataloger has an advantage, as will be shown.

Hebrew-script tables not reflected in this chapter: Yiddish, Judeo-Arabic, Ladino

The consonants on page 398 are arranged in the following order (for the rationale in reordering the letters, please see chapter 3.1, page 78):

- straight up-and-down letters (representative letter: י)
- letters with a top bar and a right side (representative letter: כ)
- letters open to the left with a short top and bottom bar (repr.: נ)
- letters open to the left with normal top and bottom bars (repr.: ב)
- letters open at the bottom (representative letter: פ)
- enclosed (or almost enclosed) letters (representative letter: מ)
- Y-like letters (representative letter: ע)
- W-like letters (representative letter: שׁ)
- other shapes (letters י, א, ל, ק)

The Hebrew vowels are arranged in order by dots below the character (in order by number of dots, followed optionally by the character *yod*), then lines below the character (in order of complexity), then a dot above the character, and finally, two characters which themselves constitute the vowel. Hebrew vowels always *follow* the consonant above or below which the vowel sign appears. The dotted circle in the table above, which is a place holder for the vernacular consonant, is also a place holder for the romanized consonant. In