

# 1.0 Hmong Alphabet - Letters

These are the ingredients to the Hmong Alphabet! This easy recipe consists of: **consonant**, **vowel**, and **tone**.

Fast Facts:

- **Consonants**: 1-4 letters
- **Vowels**: 1-2 letters
- **Tones\*** either a vowel, or 1 letter

*\*Single consonants used at the end of the word, or ending on a vowel, is the tone mark.*

Form words in these combinations:

- **C+V+T**
- **C+V**
- **V+T**
- **V**

We will discuss pronunciation later. For now look over these letter combinations:

## Consonants

c ch d dh f h hl hm hml hn hny k kh l  
m ml n nc nch nk nkh np nph npl nplh nq nqh nr  
nrh nt nth nts ntsh ntsh tx txh ny p ph pl plh q qh  
r rh s t th tsh tx txh v x xy y z

## Vowels

a e i o u w ai au aw ee ia oo ua aa

## Tones

b j v - s m g d

## Exercise 1

- Even though you don't know how to read or pronounce Hmong yet, you have all the ingredients in the above recipe to determine if what you read is a Hmong word!!!
- Look at the **consonant** + **vowel** + **tone** combinations below and **circle** the choices that could be Hmong words according to the rules you learned above. Let's stir up some of these letters and see what we get.

kuv gam koj peb boci tal neb nej ynaj wb yap htia los goy  
lsw meit nbaj ub yaj kup nws vik tsev heuj nyob sab lawx roi  
xyaum boes nyeej yxooj chav ntshav phih ib nees tshin tsheej puas muus rooj