

Alfabēts Alphabet

Aa	acs	eye	auss	ear	aptieka	pharmacy
Āā	ārsts	doctor	ābols	apple	āda	skin
Bb	brilles	glasses	bērns	child	bāls	pale
Cc	cimdi	gloves	cepure	hat / cap	ceļš	way / road
Čč	čemodāns	suitcase	čiekurs	cone	čakls	diligent
Dd	draugs	friend	daba	nature	diena	day
Ee	ekrāns	screen	elkonis	elbow	egle	fir
Ēē	ēdiens	food	ēna	shadow	ērce	tick
Ff	filma	film	fotogrāfija	photography	fēns	hair dryer
Gg	grāmata	book	gulta	bed	galds	table
Ģģ	ģimene	family	ģitāra	guitar	ģibt	to faint
Hh	higiēna	hygiene	halāts	robe	haizivs	shark
Ii	iela	street	iesnas	runny nose	istaba	room (private)
Īī	īpašs	special	īrēt	to rent	īpašnieks	owner
Jj	jaka	cardigan	jau	already	jautājums	question
Kk	kino	cinema	krāsa	colour	kaitīgs	harmful
Ķķ	ķert	to catch	ķemme	comb	ķivere	helmet
Ll	ledus	ice	lietus	rain	lieta	thing / case
Ļļ	ļaudis	people	ļauts	evil	ļoti	very
Mm	maize	bread	mati	hair	medus	honey
Nn	nauda	money	nakts	night	nākt	to come
Ņņ	ņemt	to take	ņirbēt	to flicker	ņirgāties	to sneer
Oo	operācija	operation	oga	berry	oma	mood / Granny
Pp	pēda	foot	puķe	flower	pulkstenis	clock / time
Rr	roka	arm	rakstīt	to write	rentgens	X-ray
Ss	seja	face	suns	dog	sula	juice
Šš	šokolāde	chocolate	šķēres	scissors	šaurš	narrow
Tt	tēvs	father	tēja	tea	telpa	room (public)
Uu	upe	river	uzņēmums	company	uzdevums	task
Ūū	ūdens	water	ūsas	moustache	ūbele	turtle dove
Vv	veikals	shop / store	vējš	wind	vilciens	train
Zz	zāles	medicine	zāle	grass / hall	zēns	boy
Žž	žurnāls	magazine	žogs	fence	žargons	jargon

There are 33 letters in the Latvian language. Words are written the way they are pronounced, hence spelling coincides with transcription. However, vowels *e* and *ē* can be pronounced as *broad* or *narrow*, without any diacritic mark indicating the difference. Letter *o* is pronounced as a *long vowel* in words with foreign origin. *O* is pronounced as a *diphthong* in Latvian words. The Latvian language does not contain diphthong *eu*, therefore it is adapted as *ei*.

Ee [e]	es	I	Dz dz	dzimt	to be born	Ai ai	laiks	time / weather
Ēē [e:]	mēs	we	Dž dž	džungļi	jungle	Au au	jauks	nice
Ee [æ]	ezers	lake	Oo [uo]	ola	egg	Ei ei	 Eiropa	Europe
Ēē [ɜ:]	ērts	comfortable	Oo [ō]	opera	opera	Ui ui	puika	boy

As every noun in Latvian has a gender and number, also foreign names obtain endings in Latvian. Moreover, foreign names of places and people, sometimes even brands, are spelt as close to their original pronunciation as possible or adapted, with the original spelling often given in brackets:

Ņujorka (*New York*), **Griniča** (*Greenwich*), **Parīze** (*Paris*), **Meksika** (*Mexico*)

Džeina (*Jane*), **Džordžs** (*George*), **Čārlzs** (*Charles*), **Metjū** (*Matthew*), **Hosē** (*José*)

Feisbuks (*Facebook*), **Tviteris** (*Twitter*), **Tiktoks** (*TikTok*)