

Romanization and Pronunciation:

- This is the romanization system, which will be used to spell the language using the Roman alphabet. I'm going to describe the full system in detail below:
 - ◉ *A, a*: Pronounced like the "a" in "father" when stressed; otherwise pronounced like the "a" in "sofa".
 - ◉ *Aa, aa*: Always pronounced like the "a" in "father", but held for a slightly longer duration than *a*.
 - ◉ *B, b*: Pronounced like the "b" in "Blitzen".
 - ◉ *Ch, ch*: Pronounced like the "ch" in "cheer".
 - ◉ *D, d*: Pronounced like the "d" in "Dasher".
 - ◉ *E, e*: Always pronounced like the "e" in "elf"; never silent.
 - ◉ *Ee, ee*: Always pronounced like the "e" in "elf"; never like the "ee" in "feed". Held for a slightly longer duration than *e*.
 - ◉ *F, f*: Pronounced like the "f" in "ff".
 - ◉ *G, g*: Always pronounced like the "g" in "gift"; never pronounced like the "g" in "genre" or "gene".
 - ◉ *H, h*: Pronounced like the "h" in "hat".
 - ◉ *I, i*: Pronounced like the "i" in "machine" when stressed; otherwise pronounced like the "i" in "kid".
 - ◉ *Ii, ii*: Always pronounced like the "i" in "machine", but held for a slightly longer duration than *i*.
 - ◉ *K, k*: Pronounced like the "k" in "kkid".
 - ◉ *Kh, kh*: Pronounced like the "ch" in the German pronunciation of "Buch". In English, this sound is commonly used with onomatopoeic words associated with disgust, like "blech!" or "ich!" To pronounce it correctly, put your tongue in

position to pronounce a *k*, but release it slowly; allow the air to pass through the constricted space. The result should be a sound like white noise.

- *L, l*: Always pronounced like the "l" in "love"; never swallowed as in the "l" in "middle".
- *M, m*: Pronounced like the "m" in "merry".
- *N, n*: Always pronounced like the "n" in "Noël".
- *O, o*: Always pronounced like the "o" in "cōcaptain".
- *Oo, oo*: Always pronounced like the "o" in "cōcaptain"; never like the "oo" in "boot". Held for a slightly longer duration than *o*.
- *Ö, ö*: Pronounced like the "eu" in French "deux" or the "ö" in German "Köln" or the "ö" in Finnish "tyttö". To pronounce this sound correctly, pronounce a pure *e*, but then round your lips entirely as if you were pronouncing *o*. If you do both of these things at the same time, you'll be pronouncing a perfect *ö*.
- *Öö, öö*: Pronounced as described above (see *Ö, ö*), but held for a slightly longer duration.
- *P, p*: Pronounced like the "p" in "Prancer".
- *R, r*: Pronounced like the "r" in French "rouge". It's a nice trilled "r" pronounced at the back of the throat (like a purr or a growl), so be sure to get the trill in there. It should always be rumbly and *roll*; it should never be harsh. Mastering this sound is essential to sounding like a true elf!
- *S, s*: Pronounced like the "s" in "Santa".
- *Sh, sh*: Pronounced like the "sh" in "share".
- *T, t*: Pronounced like the "t" in "tidings".
- *U, u*: Always pronounced like the "u" in "ruminant"; never like the "u" in "cute".
- *Uu, uu*: Always pronounced like the "u" in "ruminant"; never like the "u" in "cute". Held for a slightly longer duration than *u*.

- **Ü, ü:** Pronounced like the "u" in French "rue" or the "ü" in German "für" or the "y" in Finnish "tyttö". To pronounce this sound correctly, pronounce a pure *i*, but then round your lips entirely as if you were pronouncing *u*. If you do both of these things at the same time, you'll be pronouncing a perfect *ü*.
- **Üü, üü:** Pronounced as described above (see **Ü, ü**), but held for a slightly longer duration.
- **V, v:** Pronounced like the "v" in "Vixen".
- **W, w:** Pronounced like the "w" in "wise".
- **Y, y:** Always pronounced like the "y" in "year"; never like the "y" in "fly".
- **Z, z:** Pronounced like the "z" in "zip".
- **Doubled Consonants:** Doubled consonants are pronounced just like two separate instances of the same consonant. Think of them as long, like the doubled vowels.
- **Stress:** The Elvish language has a very particular intonational pattern. In the script, the changes in intonation will be represented with upper and lower case letters as follows: *rampata* RAM-pa-ta. It can't capture the intonational patterns of each sentence perfectly, so you're advised to use it as a guide when listening to the recordings.