

## Hebrew Vowels & Diphthongs

אָ	a as in far קָמָץ kamats—long מָקוֹם makom, place
אַ	a as in hut פָּתַח pataḥ—short עַד ad, until
אֶ	u as in utterly חָטַף פָּתַח hataf pataḥ—very short מוֹעֲדִים mo'edim, festivals
אִ	i as in it חִירֵק hirik—short מִשְׁפָּחָה mishpacha, family
אֵי	i as in ski חִירֵק hirek—long פְּרִי pri, fruit
אֶ	e as in tell צֵרֵי tserē—long חֵבֵר haver, friend
אֶ	e as in bed סֵגוֹל segol—short עֶרֶב erev, evening
אֶ	e as in bed חָטַף סֵגוֹל hataf segol—very short אֱלֹהִים Elohim
אוּ or אֹ	o as in row חֹלָם holam—long מֹשֶׁה Moshe, Moses
אֹ	o as in cone חָטַף קָמָץ kamats ḥatuf—short כֹּל kol, all, the whole
אֹ	o as in pope חָטַף קָמָץ hataf kamats נְעֻמִי Na'omi
אוּ	oo as in pool שׁוּרוּק shuruk—long סִדּוּר siddur, prayer book
אֹ	oo as in blue קֻבּוּץ kubuts—short צֻרִים tsurim, rocks
אֵי	ai as in buy אֲחֵלֵי Oh that! (biblical)
אֵי	aiy as in buy יַיִן yaiyn, wine
אוֵי	oi as in boy גּוֹי goy
אֵי	ei as in grey לִפְנֵי lifnei, in front of
אֵי	ei as in bray בָּנֵיךָ baneikha, your children
אֵי	ai as in aisle אֲדֹנָי adonai, my lord
אוֵי	uy as in gooey בִּטּוּי bituy, phrase
אֵיו	av as in ave יָדָיו yaday, his hands
אָה	a as in torah
אָ	sh'va—silent, or short, slurred “e”
אָחַח	when the last letter is ח the vowel is “ach” not “cha”

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