

REMIND HEART

Tajweed Made Simple

أَحْكَامُ التَّجْوِيد

The rules for reading the Qur'an beautifully, explained simply, with colour-coded examples from the Qur'an.

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Eleven short chapters, from where the letters come from to how to stop.

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How to use this booklet. Learn one chapter at a time and practise it in the surahs you already know. Listen to every example at **remindheart.com/tajweed**, and read to a teacher whenever you can.



CHAPTER 1

Before you begin

What tajweed is, and why it matters.

قَبْلَ أَنْ تَبْدَأَ

What is tajweed?

التَّجْوِيد *at-tajweed* means "to make something excellent"

Tajweed means "to make something excellent". It is the set of rules for reading the Qur'an the way it was revealed to the Prophet ﷺ and the way he taught his companions to recite it.

Each rule is about giving every letter its right: where it comes from in the mouth, whether it is heavy or light, and how long to hold it.

Allah tells us to recite slowly and beautifully.

وَرَتِّلِ ٱلْقُرْءَانَ تَرْتِيلًا

"...and recite the Qur'an with measured recitation."
73:4

Don't let it stop you

You do not need to know every rule before you start reading. Learn a little, listen a lot, and read every day.

The Prophet ﷺ said that the one who is skilled in the Qur'an will be with the noble, righteous angels, and the one who reads it and stumbles, finding it hard, gets a double reward (Sahih Muslim 798).

The best way to learn tajweed is to read to a teacher who can listen and correct you. Use this guide alongside that.

How to use the colours

Each rule in this guide has its own colour. In the examples, the words where the rule happens are coloured, so you can see it. Tap Listen to hear the full ayah recited by Sheikh al-Minshawi.



CHAPTER 2

Where letters come from

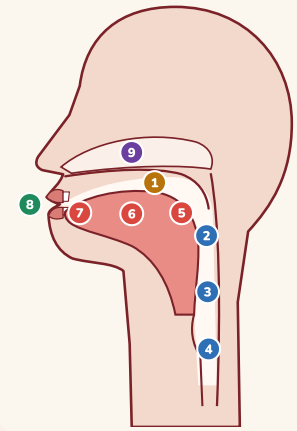
مَخَارِجُ الْحُرُوف

Every letter has its own place in the mouth.

The five places

مَخَارِجُ الْحُرُوف *makhaarij al-huroof* means "the exit points of the letters"

Five main areas, shown here as nine points.



1. **The empty space of the mouth and throat** الْجَوْف
   the long vowels: aa, oo, ee — ا و ي
2. **Top of the throat, nearest the mouth** أَدْنَى الْحَلْق — غ خ
3. **Middle of the throat** وَسَطُ الْحَلْق — ع ح
4. **Deepest part of the throat** أَقْصَى الْحَلْق — ء ه
5. **Back of the tongue** أَقْصَى اللِّسَان — ق ك
6. **Middle of the tongue** وَسَطُ اللِّسَان — ج ش ي
7. **Tip and sides of the tongue** طَرَفُ اللِّسَان — ت د ط ث ذ ظ ز س ص ل ن ر ض
   ض comes from the sides of the tongue
8. **The lips** الشَّفَتَان — ف ب م و
9. **The nose** الْخَيْشُوم — ن م
   the humming sound (ghunnah)

Heavy and light letters

التَّفْخِيمُ وَالتَّرْقِيق

at-tafkheem wat-tarqeeq means "making heavy and making light"

Seven letters are always heavy (tafkheem). Say them with a full, deep mouth: خ ص ض غ ط ق ظ. They are gathered in the phrase "خُصَّ ضَغْطٍ قِظْ". Most other letters are light (tarqeeq). Keep your mouth relaxed. Compare the heavy ص with the light س.

The heavy ṣaad in aṣ-ṣamad **112:2**

ٱللَّهُ ٱلصَّمَدُ



CHAPTER 3

Noon saakinah and tanween

Four rules for a silent noon, and for the "n" sound of tanween (ً ٍ ٌ).

النُّونُ السَّاكِنَةُ وَالتَّنْوِين

Idh-haar: say it clearly

الْإِظْهَار ***al-idh-haar*** means "to make clear, to show"

When noon saakinah or tanween comes before one of the six throat letters ء ه ع ح غ خ, say the noon clearly, with no humming.

man aamana: a clear n before hamzah **2:62**

مَنْ ءَامَنَ

an'amta: a clear n before 'ayn **1:7**

أَنْعَمْتَ

Idghaam with ghunnah: merge and hum

الْإِدْغَامُ بِغُنَّة *al-idghaam bi-ghunnah* means "merging, with a humming sound"

Before ي ن م و (gathered in the word "يَنْمُو"), the noon merges into the next letter with a humming sound held for two counts. This only happens between two words.

may-yaqoolu **2:8** — مَن يَقُولُ

khairay-yarah **99:7** — خَيْرًا يَرَهُۥ

Idghaam without ghunnah: merge, no hum

الْإِدْغَامُ بِلَا غُنَّة

al-idghaam bilaa ghunnah means "merging, without a humming sound"

Before ل and ر, the noon disappears completely into the next letter, with no humming.

mir-rabbihim **2:5** — صلے مِّن رَّبِّهِمْ

hudal-lil-muttaqeen **2:2** — هُدًى لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ

Iqlaab: change it to meem

الْإِقْلَاب *al-iqlaab* means "to change, to turn into something else"

Before ب, the noon changes into a meem sound, said with a light humming. Look for the small meem (ـ٘) written above or below.

mim-ba'di **2:27** — مِنۢ بَعۡدِ

samee'am-baseeraa **4:58** — سَمِيعَۢا بَصِيرًا

Ikhfaa: hide it

الْإِخْفَاء *al-ikhfaa'* means "to hide"

Before the other 15 letters, the noon is "hidden": not fully said and not merged. Your tongue gets ready for the next letter while you hum through the nose for two counts.

min sharri **113:2** — مِن شَرِّ

anzalnaahu **97:1** — أَنزَلۡنَٰهُ

aamantum **2:137** — ءَامَنتُم



CHAPTER 4

Meem saakinah

Three rules for a meem with no vowel.

الْمِيمُ السَّاكِنَة

Ikhfaa shafawi: hide it on the lips

الْإِخْفَاءُ الشَّفَوِيّ *al-ikhfaa' ash-shafawi* means "hiding, with the lips"

Before ب, close your lips lightly and hum for two counts.

tarmeehim bi-hijaarah **105:4**

تَرْمِيهِم بِحِجَارَةٍ

Idghaam shafawi: merge into meem

الْإِدْغَامُ الشَّفَوِيّ *al-idghaam ash-shafawi* means "merging, with the lips"

Before another م, the two meems join into one, with humming for two counts.

kam-min **2:249**

كَم مِّن

Idh-haar shafawi: say it clearly

الْإِظْهَارُ الشَّفَوِيّ *al-idh-haar ash-shafawi* means "making clear, with the lips"

Before every other letter, say the meem clearly, with no humming. Take extra care before و and ف, which are also made with the lips.

alam tara **105:1** — أَلَمْ تَرَ

al-hamdu **1:2** — ٱلْحَمْدُ



CHAPTER 5

Ghunnah

The humming sound of noon and meem with a shaddah.

الْغُنَّة

Noon and meem with shaddah

الْغُنَّة *al-ghunnah* means "a humming sound from the nose"

Whenever ن or م has a shaddah (ـّـ), hold a humming sound through the nose for two counts.

inna **103:2** — إِنَّ

an-naas **114:1** — ٱلنَّاسِ

falammaa **2:249** — فَلَمَّا



CHAPTER 6

Qalqalah

A small echo or bounce on five letters.

اَلْقَلْقَلَة

The bouncing letters

اَلْقَلْقَلَة *al-qalqalah* means "to shake, to make an echo"

The five letters ق ط ب ج د (gathered in "قُطْبُ جَدٍّ") bounce with a small echo when they have a sukoon.

The bounce is lighter in the middle of a word, and stronger when you stop on one at the end of an ayah.

yaqṭa'oon: a light bounce on the qaaf **2:27**

وَيَقْطَعُونَ

Stop on aḥad and the daal bounces **112:1**

قُلْ هُوَ ٱللَّهُ أَحَدٌ

Stop on al-falaq and the qaaf bounces **113:1**

ٱلْفَلَقِ



CHAPTER 7

Madd: stretching the sound

المَدّ

How long to hold the long vowels.

How to count

الحَرَكَة *al-harakah* means "one count, literally "a movement""

Madd is measured in counts (harakaat). One count is about the time it takes to bend or straighten a finger at a steady pace.

Natural madd: 2 counts

المَدُّ الطَّبِيعِيّ *al-madd aṭ-ṭabee'i* means "the natural stretch"

Any long vowel, ا after a fatha, و after a damma or ي after a kasra, is held for two counts. This is the basic madd.

qaala **2:249**	قَالَ
yaqoolu **2:8**	يَقُولُ

Connected madd: 4 or 5 counts

ٱلْمَدُّ ٱلْوَاجِبُ ٱلْمُتَّصِل

al-madd al-waajib al-muttasil **means "the required, connected stretch"**

When a long vowel is followed by a hamzah (ء) in the same word, stretch it for 4 or 5 counts. Look for the wavy madd sign (ـٓـ).

jaaa'a **110:1** — جَآءَ

as-samaaa'i **2:19** — ٱلسَّمَآءِ

Separated madd: 4 or 5 counts

ٱلْمَدُّ ٱلْجَائِزُ ٱلْمُنْفَصِل

al-madd al-jaa'iz al-munfasil **means "the allowed, separated stretch"**

When a long vowel ends one word and the next word starts with a hamzah, stretch it for 4 or 5 counts. Pick a length and keep it the same all the way through your reading.

bimaaa unzila **2:4** — بِمَآ أُنزِلَ

innaaa a'ṭaynaaka **108:1** — إِنَّآ أَعْطَيْنَٰكَ

Necessary madd: 6 counts

الْمَدُّ اللَّازِم *al-madd al-laazim* means "the necessary stretch"

When a long vowel is followed by a letter with a shaddah or a fixed sukoon in the same word, hold it for a full six counts. This also happens in some of the opening letters of surahs.

aḍ-ḍaaaalleen **1:7** — ٱلضَّآلِّينَ

al-ḥaaaaqqah **69:1** — ٱلْحَآقَّةُ

Alif Laaaam Meeeem **2:1** — الٓمٓ

Madd when stopping: 2, 4 or 6 counts

الْمَدُّ الْعَارِضُ لِلسُّكُون

al-madd al-'aariḍ lis-sukoon means "the stretch that comes from stopping"

When you stop on a word that has a long vowel just before its last letter, you may stretch it for 2, 4 or 6 counts. You will hear this at the end of most ayat.

al-'aalameen **1:2** — ٱلْعَٰلَمِينَ

nasta'een **1:5** — نَسْتَعِينُ

Madd leen: the soft madd

مَدُّ اللِّين *madd al-leen* means "the soft stretch"

A و or ي with a sukoon after a fatha, as in "aw" and "ay", can be stretched for 2, 4 or 6 counts when you stop on that word.

quraysh **106:1** قُرَيْشٍ

al-bayt **106:3** ٱلْبَيْتِ



CHAPTER 8

The letter laam

When to say it, and when it is heavy.

اللَّام

The sun letters: laam is silent

اللَّامُ الشَّمْسِيَّة *al-laam ash-shamsiyyah* means "the sun laam"

In "al-" (ٱل), the laam is silent before 14 "sun letters". You go straight to the next letter, which has a shaddah. Think of "ash-shams", the sun.

an-naas **114:1** ٱلنَّاسِ

wash-shamsi **91:1** وَٱلشَّمْسِ

The moon letters: laam is clear

اللَّامُ الْقَمَرِيَّة *al-laam al-qamariyyah* means "the moon laam"

Before the other 14 "moon letters", the laam is said clearly with a sukoon. Think of "al-qamar", the moon.

al-falaq **113:1** ٱلْفَلَقِ

al-qadr **97:1** ٱلْقَدْرِ

The laam in the name of Allah

لَامُ لَفْظِ الْجَلَالَة

laam lafdh al-jalaalah means "the laam in the name of Majesty, Allah"

The laam in "Allah" is heavy and full after a fatha or damma, as in "qul huwa-llaah" and "naṣru-llaah".

It is light after a kasra, as in "bismi-llaah" and "lillaah".

Heavy: huwallaahu **112:1** هُوَ ٱللَّهُ

Light: bismillaahi **1:1** بِسْمِ ٱللَّهِ



CHAPTER 9

The letter raa

الرَّاء

Heavy or light, depending on its vowel.

Heavy raa

تَفْخِيمُ الرَّاء *tafkheem ar-raa'* means "making the raa heavy"

Raa is heavy when it has a fatha or a damma, or when it has a sukoon and the letter before it has a fatha or a damma. If the letter before is also silent, look one letter further back.

rabbi **1:2** رَبِّ

khusr **103:2** خُسْرٍ

Light raa

تَرْقِيقُ الرَّاء *tarqeeq ar-raa'* means "making the raa light"

Raa is light when it has a kasra, or when it has a sukoon and the letter before it has a kasra.

riḥlata **106:2** رِحْلَةَ



CHAPTER 10

Stopping and starting

How to read the signs in the mushaf, and how to end a word.

الْوَقْفُ وَالِابْتِدَاء

The stopping signs

عَلَامَاتُ الْوَقْف *'alaamaat al-waqf* means "the signs for stopping"

- مـ You must stop here, or the meaning could change.
- لا Do not stop here.
- ج You may stop or carry on.
- صلى Better to carry on.
- قلى Better to stop.
- ۛ ۛ Three dots in two places: stop at one of them, not both.
- ۞ The end of an ayah. It is good to pause here.

See the three dots after rayb and after feeh: stop at one of them
2:2

لَا رَيْبَ ۛ فِيهِ

How to stop on a word

الْوَقْف *al-waqf* means "stopping, pausing"

- When you stop, end the last letter with a sukoon (no vowel).
- If the word ends with ة (taa marbutah), stop with an "h" sound.
- If it ends with a double fatha (ًا), stop with a long "aa".

baseeran becomes baseeraa when you stop **4:58** بَصِيرًا



CHAPTER 11

Practise with Surah al-Ikhlas

الْإِخْلَاص

Four short ayat with many of the rules in them.

AYAH 1

قُلْ هُوَ ٱللَّهُ أَحَدٌ

ٱللَّهُ Heavy laam in Allah, after the fatha of huwa

أَحَدٌ Stop here and the daal bounces (qalqalah)

AYAH 2

ٱللَّهُ ٱلصَّمَدُ

ٱللَّهُ Heavy laam: you start with a fatha (a-llaahu)

ٱلصَّمَدُ Sun letter: the laam is silent, and ṣaad is heavy

AYAH 3

لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ

لَمْ Clear meem before yaa (idh-haar shafawi)

يَلِدْ The daal bounces (qalqalah)

يُولَدْ A natural madd on the waw, then a bounce on the daal when you stop

AYAH 4

وَلَمْ يَكُن لَّهُۥ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌۢ

وَلَمْ Clear meem before yaa

يَكُن The noon merges into the laam, with no humming

لَّهُۥ The small waw is a natural madd of two counts

أَحَدٌۢ Stop here and the daal bounces



وَرَتِّلِ ٱلْقُرْءَانَ تَرْتِيلًا

"...and recite the Qur'an with measured recitation."
Al-Muzzammil 73:4

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