

The phonetic transcriptions in this anthology follow the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA). The reader is assumed to be familiar with the basic principles of IPA. For reference, see *Handbook of the International Phonetic Association* (IPA 1999).

PHONETIC SYMBOLS IN THE TRANSCRIPTIONS

For ease of reading, we use broad phonetic transcription. This means that the phonetic symbols are roughly comparable to the use in other languages. But it also means that the reader should be aware of certain conventions that are explained once and for all below rather than explicitly included in the transcriptions of the songs. The phonetic symbols represent the different phonemes that the user should be aware of in order to differentiate the meanings of Danish words. The conventions here are optimized to reflect our recommended pronunciation in Danish art song which often differs from the pronunciation in standard spoken Danish. For further details and discussion of the transcription conventions as well as audio presentations of the sounds, see danishdictioninartsong.dk.

CONSONANTS

Symbol	Phonetic description	Equivalents
p	Voiceless (aspirated) bilabial plosive, [p ^(h)]	English <i>park, top</i>
t	Voiceless (aspirated) alveolar plosive, [t ^(h)]	English <i>top, cat</i>
k	Voiceless (aspirated) velar plosive, [k ^(h)]	English <i>call, park</i>
b	Voiceless unaspirated bilabial plosive, [b]	English <i>bold</i>
d	Voiceless unaspirated alveolar plosive, [d]	English <i>dive</i>
g	Voiceless unaspirated velar plosive, [g]	English <i>goal</i>
m	Bilabial nasal	English <i>moon</i>
n	Alveolar nasal	English <i>name</i>
ŋ	Velar nasal	English <i>song</i>
f	Labiodental fricative	English <i>father</i>
v	Voiced labiodental fricative	English <i>vine</i>
ð	Voiced dental-alveolar non-sibilant fricative	English <i>father</i>
s	Voiceless alveolar fricative	English <i>song</i>
ç	Voiceless alveopalatal fricative	English <i>sharp</i>
ʀ	Voiced uvular friative	German <i>rot</i>
h	Voiceless glottal fricative	English <i>hat</i>
j	Palatal approximant	English <i>you</i>
l	Alveolar lateral approximant	British English <i>love</i>

VOWELS

	Front, unrounded	Front, rounded	Back, rounded
Close	i	y	u
Close-mid	e	ø	o
Mid	ɛ	œ	ɔ
Open-mid	æ	ɶ	ɒ
Open	a		

In addition, /ə ɪ ʊ/ are used in diphthongs and unstressed syllables. These vowels correspond to /ɛ~œ, i~e, a~ɒ, u~o/ respectively.

DIACRITICS

- '◌ Primary stress
- ◌◌ Secondary stress
- ◌: Long vowel
- ◌^v Velar glide on vowel
- ◌^ʔ◌ Glottal stop

CONVENTIONS FOR THE CONSONANTS

- All consonants have slightly rounded lips before rounded vowels, and spread lips before unrounded vowels.
- /p t k/ are aspirated and /t/ is slightly affricated, [p^h t^{sh} k^h], in most contexts. Before weak vowels /ə ɪ/ and other unstressed vowels, /p t k/ are unaspirated or only slightly aspirated. They are never aspirated after syllable initial /s/, e.g. /skæɪ/ *skal* (shall). This pattern of aspiration is similar to other Germanic languages, such as German and English.
- /b d g/ are always voiceless and unaspirated, [b̥ d̥ g̥] (= unaspirated [p t k]). The symbols are only used in initial position in order to differentiate between the aspirated /p t k/ and unaspirated /b d g/.
- /t d n s l/ are apical, i.e. they are pronounced with the tip of the tongue raised towards the alveolar ridge. The phonemes /t s/ may be laminal if preferred, i.e. they may be pronounced with the lamina raised, and the tip of the tongue lowered.
- /ɰ/ is pronounced with the back of the tongue quickly raised towards the uvula. There may or may not be a brief contact between the tongue and uvula. Strong affrication should be avoided. It is never trilled.
- /ɰ j l/ may be devoiced and slightly fricated, [χ ç ʃ], after aspirated /p t k/, e.g. /pɰi:sə/ → [p^hχi:sə] *prise* (praise).
- /ɛ/ is somewhat similar to /ʃ/, a phoneme which is common in many other languages, including English (*ship*), German (*schein*), and French (*chance*). The main difference between the two is that the tip of the tongue is lowered in /ɛ/.
- /v ð/ should have little or no frication.

CONVENTIONS FOR THE VOWELS

Danish features 13 distinct vowels in stressed syllables as shown in the table above. The vowels can be ordered in five degrees of aperture, from the close /i y u/ to the open /a/. As a consequence of having five degrees of aperture, /ɛ/ is used for a vowel halfway between /i/ and /a/. Most languages have a vowel like that; typically corresponding to the letter *e*. The vowel /e/ in Danish can then be described as halfway between /i/ and /ɛ/, and the vowel /æ/ can be described as halfway between /ɛ/ and /a/. The vowels /y ø œ æ/ can be described similar to /i e ε æ/ respectively, except that the lips are rounded. Similarly, /ɔ/ is halfway between /u/ and /a/, typically corresponding to the letter *o* in many languages. The vowel /o/ is halfway between /u/ and /ɔ/, and /ɒ/ is halfway between /ɔ/ and /a/.

- In addition to the 13 distinct vowels, we use /ə ɪ ʊ ʊ/ to indicate weak vowels. These are used rather than the similar /ɛ~œ, i~e, a~ɒ, u~o/ to indicate unstressed vowels with a more relaxed pronunciation taking color from surrounding sounds. The symbols /ɪ ʊ ʊ/ are also used in diphthongs.
- Note that in most languages /e/ indicates a mid vowel (similar to Danish /ɛ/). In Danish /e/ indicates a close-mid vowel between /i/ and /ɛ/, and /æ/ indicates a vowel between /ɛ/ and /a/.
- Vowels can be short and long. Short vowels are typically slightly more open compared to the corresponding long vowel.
- All vowels are slightly more open after /ʁ/, i.e. /ɛ/ is slightly more open in /kʁɛftə/ *kræfter* ('strengths') than in /ɛftə/ *efter* ('after').
- Vowels in initial position are typically marked with /ʔ/, indicating that the vocal cords are closed before the vowel for a weak glottal stop. For instance, /i ʔaftən/ *i aften* (tonight) is pronounced with a short glottal stop, breaking up the two vowels.
- The symbol /ʋ/ is used on vowels to indicate a so called *soft g*, a very slight velar glide, i.e. /aʋ/ indicates a vowel starting with [a] and gliding towards a velar unrounded vowel [u]. This is somewhat similar to the diphthong [au], except the lips should be kept unrounded. This sound is a subtle reminiscent of /g/. The indication of a velar glide is maintained in this book in order to reflect the recommended style in art song. Most singers, even native Danish singers, find this velar glide somewhat unnatural to pronounce, as it does not occur in modern Danish. If preferred, it can be substituted with other sounds for a slightly less conservative pronunciation style:
 - After front vowels, the /ʋ/ can be omitted or substituted with /ɪ/, e.g. /dæ:ʋ/ *dag* (day) may be pronounced /dæ:/ or /dæ:ɪ/.
 - After back vowels and /a/, the /ʋ/ can be substituted with /ɔ/, e.g. /spʁɔ:ʋ/ *sprog* (language) may be pronounced /spʁɔ:ɔ/.
 - After /u/, the /ʋ/ can be omitted, e.g. /fu:ʋ/ *fugl* (bird) may be pronounced /fu:l/.

SUPRASEGMENTAL FEATURES

- In spoken Danish, some syllables are modified by a laryngeal accent (*stød*) that manifests as a glottal stop, creaky voice or similar. This feature is omitted in the style of art song and therefore not included in the transcriptions.
- Vowel length is distinctive. In art song, short vowels implicate a slight lengthening of the following consonant in intervocalic position. This is reflected in the transcriptions by doubling the consonant, e.g. /skul-lə/ *skulle* (should).
- In our transcriptions, stress is marked on syllables that should be stressed in the context, rather than the lexical stress. Also, note that monosyllabic words are unstressed unless they are explicitly marked as stressed in the transcriptions.