

Alphabetical Listing of Italian Spellings

Letter	Italian Spelling	IPA	Italian Word with IPA	English Word
a	a	[a]	cara ['ka:.ra]	time
	ai	[a:i]	mai [ma:i]	similar to mine
	au	[a:u]	lauda ['la:u.da]	similar to house
b	b	[b]	bella ['bel.la]	Bob
	bb	[b.b]	babbo ['bab.bro]	cab_boy
c	c before a, o, u or a consonant	[k]	canto ['kan.to]	kick
	c before e, i	[tʃ]	cielo ['tʃe:.lo]	church
	cc before a, o, u or a consonant	[k.k]	ecco ['ek.ko]	milk_cow
	cc before e, i	[t.tʃ]	Puccini ['put.tʃi.ni]	not_cheep
	ch	[k]	chi [ki]	chorus
	cch	[k.k]	occhi ['ok.ki]	deck_cabin
	cqu	[k.kw]	acqua ['ak.kwa]	deck_queen
d	d	[d]	diva ['di:.va]	deed
	dd	[d.d]	Nedda ['ned.da]	bed_down
e	e normally when unstressed	[e]	nome ['no:.me]	similar to chaotic
	unstressed and preceding m, r, l, n and a consonant	[ɛ]	entrare [en.'tra:.re]	
	e in the stressed syllable following the rules for the open -e.	[ɛ]	pieno ['pje:.no] gelida ['dʒɛ:.li.da]	yes
	ei	[e:i]	lei [le:i]	similar to lay
	eu	[ɛ:u]	euro ['ɛ:u.ro]	no English equivalent
f	f	[f]	finire [fi.'ni:.re]	fife
	ff	[f.f]	affetto [af.'fet.to]	half_full
g	g before a, o, u or a consonant	[g]	figura [fi.'gu:.ra]	go
	g before e, i	[dʒ]	gemma ['dʒem.ma]	gentle
	gg before a, o, u or a consonant	[g.g]	fugga ['fug.ga]	big_gun
	gg before e, i	[d.dʒ]	figge ['fid.dʒe]	bad_gem
	gli (the <i>elya</i>) initial	[ʎ]	gli [ʎi]	similar to million
	medial	[ʎ.ʎ]	figlio ['fiʎ.ʎo]	
	initial when following a vowel	[ʎʎ]	burla gli ['bur.la ʎʎi]	
	gn initial	[ɲ]	gnocco ['ɲuk.ko]	similar to onion
	medial – always doubled	[ɲ.ɲ]	degno ['deɲ.ɲo]	
	initial when following a vowel	[ɲɲ]	di gnocchi [di 'ɲɲo.ki]	
	gu	[gw]	guarda ['gwar.da]	Gwendolyn
h	h	silent	perché [per.'ke]	