

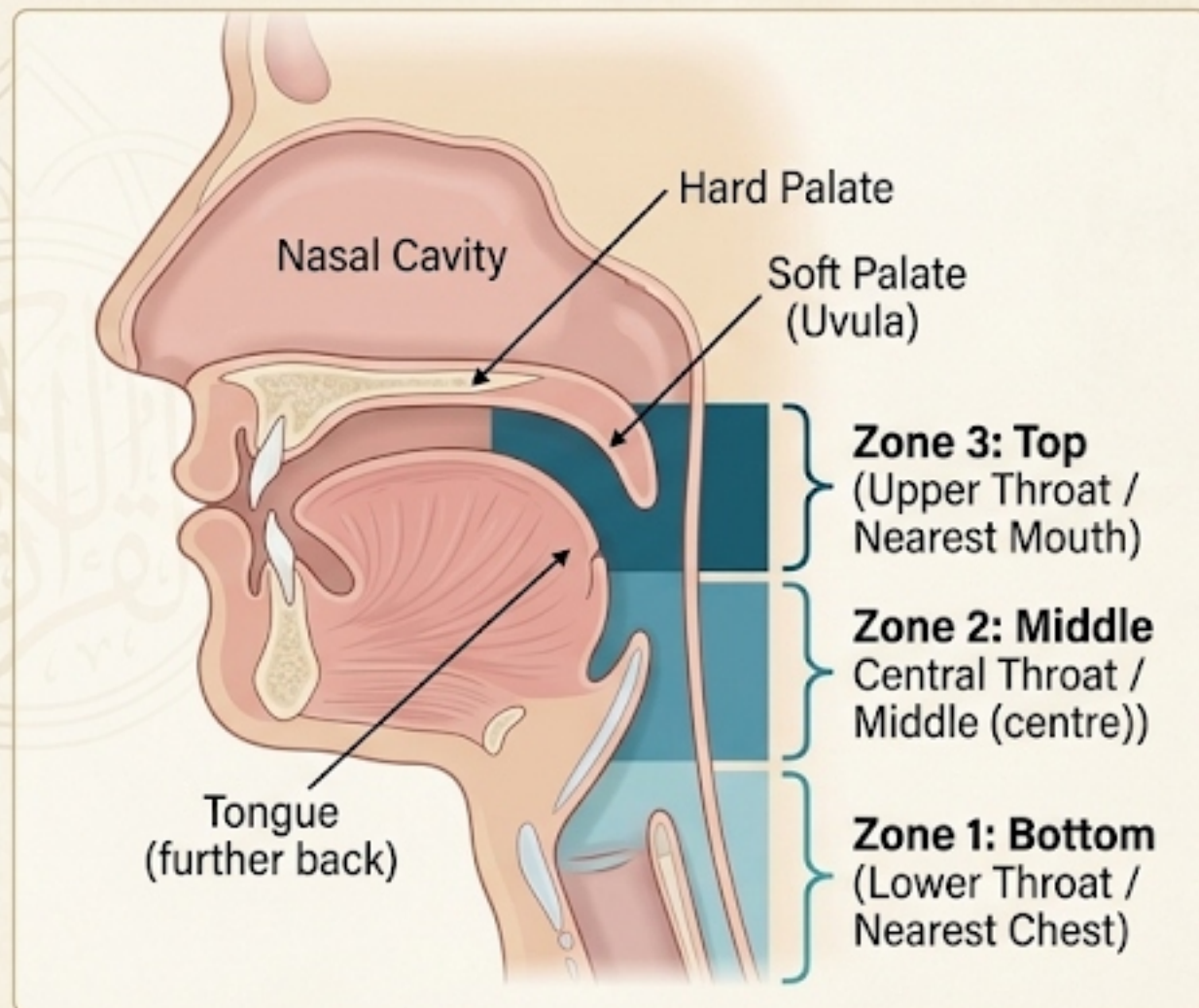
RULES OF TAJWEED

Throatal Letters:

There are six (6) throatal letters in Tajweed.

These letters are categorized into three distinct pronunciation levels within the throat.

①	Level 1: Bottom of the Throat	ع	ق
②	Level 2: Middle of the Throat	خ	ح
③	Level 3: Top of the Throat	غ	ج



RULES OF TAJWEED

A COMPREHENSIVE & PROFESSIONAL GUIDE

1. Articulation Points & Letter Types

Throatal Letters (حروف الحلق)

There are six (6) throatal letters, pronounced from three distinct levels of the throat:

- Bottom of the Throat: هـ هـ
- Middle of the Throat: ح ع
- Top of the Throat: خ غ

Bold Letters (حروف الاستعلاء)

There are seven (7) bold letters pronounced with a heavy and strong voice. These are grouped together in the phrase: خُصَّ صَغَطٍ قِطْ

The individual letters are: خ ص ض غ ط ق ظ

Rules of Ra (ر)

The letter Ra (ر) can be pronounced bold (heavy) or light (soft) depending on its harakat (movement):

- **Bold (Heavy):** When it has a Fathah (Zabr) or Dammah (Pesh) upon it.
- **Light (Soft):** When it has a Kasrah (Zer) below it.
- **With Sukoon (Jazm):** Look at the letter immediately before it. If the preceding letter has a Fathah or Dammah, Ra is bold. If it has a Kasrah, Ra is light.

***Note:** We apply a similar rule to the Laam (ل) in the word Allah (الله). It is recited bold if preceded by a Fathah or Dammah, and light if preceded by a Kasrah.*

2. Harakaat (Movements) & Sukoon

SIGN NAME	DESCRIPTION	SYMBOL
Fathah (Zabr)	A short diagonal stroke written above a letter.	
Kasrah (Zer)	A short diagonal stroke written below a letter.	
Dammah (Pesh)	A small curl (similar to Waw) written above a letter.	
Sukoon (Jazm)	A resting sign. A letter with this sign is called 'Saakin' (resting).	

Silent / Empty Letters

Letters having no sign on them are called empty or silent letters. Since they do not produce any sound of their own, they should generally be overlooked in pronunciation. These silent letters frequently occur when Alif, Waw, and Ya (Maddah) are involved, or when the Laam (ل) of the definite article (al) is prefixed to a sun letter.

3. Tanween & Ghunnah

Tanween (ـَـِـُـ)

Tanween represents a single harakat (movement) paired with a hidden Noon Saakin (نْ). Instead of writing the harakat and Noon separately, the sign is doubled. The Noon sound is pronounced but not written.

- **Fathatain:** Double Fathah / Double Zabr
- **Kasratain:** Double Kasrah / Double Zer
- **Dammatain:** Double Dammah / Double Pesh

Ghunnah

Ghunnah is the act of voicing the Meem (م) or Noon (ن) completely into the nose for a duration of two beats (nasalization).

4. Prolongation: Maddah & Leen Letters

Maddah Letters (2 Measures)

There are three Maddah letters, each prolonged for 2 measures of harakah (approx. 2 seconds):

- **Alif Maddah:** An empty Alif preceded by a letter with Fathah.
- **Waw Maddah:** A Waw with Sukoon preceded by a letter with Dammah.
- **Ya Maddah:** A Ya with Sukoon preceded by a letter with Kasrah.

Standing Harakaat: A Standing Fathah, Standing Kasrah, or Standing Dammah acts equally to a Maddah letter and is also prolonged for 2 measures.

Leen Letters (Soft Letters)

There are two Leen letters:

- **Waw Leen:** Waw with Sukoon preceded by a Fathah (وَ).
- **Ya Leen:** Ya with Sukoon preceded by a Fathah (يَ).

Madd (ـَ) Rules of Stretching

The Madd sign indicates stretching a Maddah or Leen letter from 4 to 6 measures. The main types are:

- **Madd-e-Muttasil (Long Madd):** The Maddah letter is followed by a Hamza in the *same* word.
- **Madd-e-Munfasil (Short Madd):** The Maddah letter is followed by a Hamza at the beginning of the *next* word.
- **Madd-e-Aaridh Waqfi:** A temporary sukoon is created due to stopping immediately after a Maddah or Leen letter.
- **Madd-e-Laazim:** The Maddah letter is followed by an original, permanent Sukoon or Shaddah.

5. Special Characteristics

Qalqalah (Echo) Letters

There are five (5) Qalqalah letters. When they appear with a Sukoon, we make an echoing or bouncing sound after the sukoon by parting the lips slightly. They are grouped in the phrase: قُطْبُ جَدَّ

The letters are: ق ط ب ج د

Shaddah / Tashdid (ـّ)

If a Tashdid sign appears over a letter, that letter is pronounced twice: first time merging with the previous letter (acting like a sukoon), and the second time with its own harakat. A letter with this sign is called 'Mushaddad'.

6. Rules of Noon Saakin & Tanween

There are four distinct rules applied when Noon Saakin (نْ) or Tanween is followed by certain letters:

RULE	MEANING	APPLICATION & LETTERS
1. Izhaar	Saying Clearly	If followed by any Throatial Letter (ء ه ع ح غ خ), it is read clearly without any extra Ghunnah.
2. Idgham	Merging	If followed by 'Yarmaloon' letters (ي ر م ل و ن). <i>With Ghunnah:</i> ي ن م و <i>Without Ghunnah (Complete Merge):</i> ل ر
3. Iqlab	Converting	If followed by Baa (ب), the Noon sound converts into a tiny Meem (م) accompanied by a nasal sound.
4. Ikhfaa	Hiding	If followed by any of the remaining 15 letters. The Noon sound is hidden partially into the nose for two seconds.

7. Rules of Meem Saakin

RULE	MEANING	APPLICATION
1. Izhaar-e-Shafwi	Clear Voice	If Meem Saakin is followed by any letter <i>except</i> Meem and Baa, it is read clearly without Ghunnah.
2. Idgham-e-Shafwi	Merging	If followed by another Meem (م), the two merge together with a nasal sound (Ghunnah).
3. Ikhfaa-e-Shafwi	Hiding	If followed by Baa (ب), the sound of Meem is hidden into the Baa with a nasal sound.

8. Rules of Waqf (Pause / Stop) & Extras

Pausing at the End of a Word

Proper pausing (waqf) and starting (ibtida) are essential for reciting the Qur'an correctly. When pausing at a word for any reason, the last letter generally becomes **Saakin** (silent).

Exceptions:

- **Fathatain (َ َ)**: Changes into an Alif (prolonged for 2 measures).
- **Round Taa (ُ)**: Changes into a Ha (َ) with a sukoon.

If pausing on a word ending with a *Shaddah*, the harakah drops, but the letter is pronounced with force to distinguish it from a normal sukoon.

Tiny Noon Substitution & Rule of Anaa

- **Tiny Noon Substitution:** If a letter with Tanween is followed by a connecting Hamza, the Tanween is written as a single vowel, and a tiny Noon with a Kasrah is inserted beneath to connect the words.
- **The Rule of Anaa (اَنَا):** Whenever the word "Anaa" appears, it is read short as "Ana" (اَنَّ). The second Alif is ignored in recitation.