

LANGUAGES · ADULT REFERENCE

# French Pronunciation Guide

The 12 sounds that matter most

## The honest preamble

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## 1. The nasal vowels — these are the trick

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**2. The 'u' sound — not the same as 'oo'**

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**3. Silent letters — the rule that fixes 80% of mistakes**

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**4. Liaison — sometimes the silent letter wakes up**

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**5. The 'r' — different from English**

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**6. 'Ch' — the easy one**

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**7. 'J' and 'G' before E or I**

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**8. 'É' vs 'È' vs 'E'**

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**9. 'O' — always 'wah'**

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**10. 'EAU' — always 'oh'**

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**11. 'AI' and 'EI' — both 'eh'**

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**12. 'OU' — always 'oo'**

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**When you're stuck**

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