Quran Book

Free printable · Lesson 3 of 3 short vowels

Arabic Alphabet With Dammah

Dammah is a small curl, like a tiny ـُو, written **on top** of a letter. It gives the letter a short **"u"** sound, like the u in *put*. Read each card out loud: say the sound, not the letter's name.

بُ

The **red curl on top** is the dammah.
bu — one short beat

Light letter · Heavy letter (read it fuller) — Raa too · * see the note below

Start at the top right ←

7 خُ **khu** Khaa	6 حُ **ḥu** Ḥaa	5 جُ **ju** Jeem	4 ثُ **thu** Thaa	3 تُ **tu** Taa	2 بُ **bu** Baa	1 أُ **ʾu** Hamza on Alif *
14 صُ **ṣu** Ṣaad	13 شُ **shu** Sheen	12 سُ **su** Seen	11 زُ **zu** Zaay	10 رُ **ru** Raa	9 ذُ **dhu** Dhaal	8 دُ **du** Daal
21 قُ **qu** Qaaf	20 فُ **fu** Faa	19 غُ **ghu** Ghayn	18 عُ **ʿu** ʿAyn	17 ظُ **ẓu** Ẓaa	16 طُ **ṭu** Ṭaa	15 ضُ **ḍu** Ḍaad
28 يُ **yu** Yaa	27 وُ **wu** Waaw	26 هُ **hu** Haa	25 نُ **nu** Noon	24 مُ **mu** Meem	23 لُ **lu** Laam	22 كُ **ku** Kaaf

7 **Heavy letters are fullest with dammah.** خ ص ض غ ط ق ظ round the lips and fill the mouth: khu, ṣu, ḍu, ghu, ṭu, qu, ẓu. Remember them with خُصَّ ضَغْطٍ قِظْ.

ر **Raa is heavy here too.** It isn't one of the 7, but with a dammah رُ it is read full and heavy, just like رَ. (Only رِ is light.)

* **Alif can't carry a dammah.** The first card is really a **hamza** ء sitting on the alif: أُ is read "ʾu", a short u with a little catch in the throat.

Don't mix them up: the dammah is a **tiny curl on top** of the letter — the letter وُ is much bigger and sits on the line.

Want a teacher to check your child's dammah? One-on-one Zoom classes, Ijazah-certified teachers. **Book a free trial**