

Scheme: SoundSpel  
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Brief Summary

SoundSpel is a reform spelling system that makes English spelling simple and regular, while preserving continuity from traditional spelling. Its great advantage over other reform spelling systems is that it is easier to learn, and particularly easy to read, for those raised with traditional spelling. Specifically, Soundspel:

- Does not introduce any new symbols, thus making it compatible with the current (QWERTY) keyboard.
- Relies upon familiar digraphs.
- Does not assign unusual notations for sounds (ex. using q for the ng sound), except for 'uu' and 'zh'.
- Does not introduce diacritical marks (such as accents), which are generally not favored in English-speaking countries.
- Does not dramatically change the appearance of existing words.
- Keeps the spelling of 12 of the most common words, uses s for plurals and possessives (rather than 'z'), and keeps the current 'th' digraph.

A concise summary of SoundSpel rules are:

1. Short vowels are a single letter, as in: sat, set, did, dot, cut
2. Long vowels are followed immediately by an e, as in: sundae, see, die, toe, cue
3. No silent letters
4. Most double letters are removed
5. Consonants such as f, c, s, j, g have a consistent, single sound and spelling

This results in a system that is intuitive and consistent:

hat, have, laugh, plaid → hat, hav, laf, plad	roll, hole, soul, goal → roel, hoel, soel, goel
red, head, said, friend → red, hed, sed, frend	tough, love, judge, tongue → tuf, luv, juj, tung
herd, earth, birth → herd, erth, berth	knight, receipt, asthma → niet, reseet, azma
hide, fight, find, knight → hied, fiet, fiend, niet	phone, city, gorgeous → foen, sity, gorjus

Traditional Spelling	Scheme Transcription
In a cavern, in a canyon, excavating for a mine, dwelt a miner, forty-niner, and his daughter Clementine.	In a cavern, in a canyon, excavating for a mien, dwelt a miener, forty-niner, and his dauter Clementine.
A north country maid down to London had strayed, although with her nature it did not agree.	A north cuntry maed down to London had straed, alltho with her naecher it did not agree.
With glowing hearts, we see thee rise, the true north strong and free!	With gloeing harts, we see thee riez, th troo north strong and free!
Once a jolly swagman camped by a billabong under the shade of a coolibah tree.	Wuns a joly swagman campt bi a billabong under th shaed of a coolibah tree.
There is not in this wide world a valley so sweet, as that vale in whose bosom the bright waters meet.	Thair is not in this wied werld a valy so sweet, as that vael in hoos buuzom th briet wauters meet.
I refuse to join any club that would have me as a member.	I refuez to join eny club that wuud hav me as a member.
No man has a good enough memory to be a successful liar.	No man has a guud enuf memory to be a sucesful lieer.

