



# Romanization Conversion

Because Cantonese is a colloquial language, there is a lot of inconsistency on how to write it in Latin letters. For this site, we have developed our own Romanization, along with IPA-style [tone symbols](#).

Kisa: Romanization used on this website ([www.cantonese.ca](http://www.cantonese.ca))

IPA: International Phonetic Alphabet ([Handbook of the International Phonetic Association](#))

Lau: [Sidney Lau Cantonese Series](#)

Yale: [English-Cantonese in Yale Romanization](#)

Jyutping: yüt+ ping+ standardized by the [Linguistic Society of Hong Kong](#)

CPB: Lonely Planet [Cantonese Phrasebook](#)

## Tones

Kisa/IPA	Lau	Yale	Jyutping	CPB
1	1, °	à, ā	1	à
1	2, *	á	2	á
1	3	a	3	ā
1	4	àh	4	a
1	5	áh	5	ā
1	6	ah	6	ā

## Initials

Kisa	IPA	Lau	Yale	Jyutping	CPB
b	p	b	b	b	b
p	p <sup>h</sup>	p	p	p	p
m	m	m	m	m	m
f	f	f	f	f	f
d	t	d	d	d	d
t	t <sup>h</sup>	t	t	t	t
l	l	l	l	l	l
g	k	g	g	g	g
k	k <sup>h</sup>	k	k	k	k
h	h	h	h	h	h
dz	ts	j	j	z	j
ts	ts <sup>h</sup>	ch	ch	c	ch
s	s	s	s	s	s
y	j	y	y	j	y
w	w	w	w	w	w
gw	k <sup>w</sup>	gw	gw	gw	gw
kw	k <sup>wh</sup>	kw	kw	kw	kw

# Finals

Kisa	IPA	Lau	Yale	Jyutping	CPB
a	a:	a	a	aa	a
ai	a:i	aai	aai	aai	aai
au	a:u	aaU	aaU	aaU	aaU
am	am	aam	aam	aam	aam
an	an	aan	aap	aan	aan
ang	aŋ	aang	aang	aang	aang
ap	apʰ	aap	aap	aap	aap
at	atʰ	aat	aat	aat	aat
ak	akʰ	aak	aak	aak	aak

Kisa	IPA	Lau	Yale	Jyutping	CPB
ɛi	ɛi	ai	ai	ai	ai
ɛu	ɛu	au	au	au	au
ɛm	ɛ	am	am	am	am
ɛn	ɛn	an	an	an	an
ɛŋ	ɛŋ	ang	ang	ang	ang
ɛp	ɛpʰ	ap	ap	ap	ap
ɛt	ɛtʰ	at	at	at	at
ɛk	ɛkʰ	ak	ak	ak	ak

Kisa	IPA	Lau	Yale	Jyutping	CPB
o	ɔ:	oh	o	o	oh
oi	ɔ:i	oi	oi	oi	oi
ou	ou	o	ou	ou	o
on	ɔn	on	on	on	on
ong	ɔŋ	ong	ong	ong	ong
ot	ɔtʰ	ot	ot	ot	ot
ok	ɔkʰ	ok	ok	ok	ok

Kisa	IPA	Lau	Yale	Jyutping	CPB
e	ɛ:	e	e	e	e
ei	ei	ei	ei	ei	ei
eu	ɛ:u			eu	
eng	ɛŋ	eng	eng	eng	eng

ek	ɛkʰ	ek	ek	ek	ek
Kisa	IPA	Lau	Yale	Jyutping	CPB
i	i:	i	i	i	i
iu	i:u	iu	iu	iu	iu
im	im	im	im	im	im
in	in	in	in	in	in
Ing	ɪŋ	ing	ing	ing	ing
ip	ipʰ	ip	ip	ip	ip
it	itʰ	it	it	it	it
Ik	ɪkʰ	ik	ik	ik	ik

Kisa	IPA	Lau	Yale	Jyutping	CPB
œ	œ:	euh	eu	oe	euh
öü	øy	ui	eui	eoi	ui
ön	øn	un	eun	eon	un
œŋ	œŋ	eung	eung	oeng	eung
öt	ötʰ	ut	eut	eot	ut
œk	œkʰ	euk	euk	oek	euk

Kisa	IPA	Lau	Yale	Jyutping	CPB
u	u:	oo	u	u	oo
ui	u:i	ooi	ui	ui	ooi
un	un	oon	un	un	oon
Ung	ʊŋ	ung	ung	ung	ung
ut	utʰ	oot	ut	ut	oot
Uk	ʊkʰ	uk	uk	uk	uk

Kisa	IPA	Lau	Yale	Jyutping	CPB
ü	y:	ue	yu	yu	ue
ün	yn	uen	yun	yun	uen
üt	ytʰ	uet	yut	yut	uet

Kisa	IPA	Lau	Yale	Jyutping	CPB
m	m	m	m	m	m
ng	ŋ	ng	ng	ng	ng