Tajweed Rules Chart · Part 1: Noon, Meem & Echo Letters

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Arabic is read right to left. Each rule depends on the letter that comes **next**. "Ghunnah" is the nasal sound from the nose; hold it for 2 counts. Learn one rule at a time and check it with a teacher.

1. Noon Sakinah & Tanween أحكام النون الساكنة والتنوين

Rule	Next letter	What happens	Example
Izhar · clear إظهار	ء ه ع ح غ خ throat letters	Noon read clearly, no extra Ghunnah	مَنْ آمَنَ · مِنْ عِلْمٍ
Idgham with Ghunnah إدغام بغنة	ى ن م و	Noon merges into the next letter with a 2-count Ghunnah	مَن يَقُولُ · مِن وَالٍ
Idgham without Ghunnah إدغام بغير غنة	ل ر	Noon merges completely, no Ghunnah	مِن رَّبِّهِمْ هُدًى لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ
Iqlab · change إقلاب	ب	Noon turns into a hidden Meem with Ghunnah	مِنۢ بَعْدِ · سَمِيعٌۢ بَصِيرٌ
Ikhfa · hiding إخفاء	ت ث ج د ذ ز س ش ص ض ط ظ ف ق ك the other 15 letters	Noon is hidden; the tongue gets ready for the next letter while a 2-count Ghunnah is held	مِن قَبْلِ · أَنتُمْ · مَن كَانَ

Idgham happens only between two words. Inside one word, as in الدُّنْيَا, the Noon stays clear.

2. Meem Sakinah أحكام الميم الساكنة

Rule	Next letter	What happens	Example
Ikhfa Shafawi · lip hiding إخفاء شفوى	ب	Meem lightly hidden with a 2-count Ghunnah	تَرْمِيهِم بِحِجَارَةٍ
Idgham Shafawi · lip merging إدغام شفوى	م	The two Meems merge with a 2-count Ghunnah	كَم مِّن فِئَةٍ
Izhar Shafawi · lip clarity إظهار شفوى	all other letters	Meem read clearly; take extra care before و and ف	هُمْ فِيهَا · عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا

3. Ghunnah الغنة

When ن or م has a Shaddah, hold the nasal sound for **2 counts**. Rushing it is a common hidden mistake.

إِنَّ · ثُمَّ · النَّاسِ

4. Qalqalah · echo letters القلقلة

These 5 letters bounce when they have a Sukoon: ق ط ب ج د, remembered as قُطْبُ جَدٍّ. Minor in the middle of a word; stronger when you stop on it.

يَجْعَلُونَ · الْفَلَقِ · أَحَدٌ

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Tajweed Rules Chart · Part 2: Madd, Heavy Letters & Stops

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One "count" is about the time it takes to fold one finger at a steady pace. Whichever length you choose for an optional Madd, keep it the same throughout your recitation.

5. Madd · lengthening المد

long vowels ا و ى

Type	When it happens	Length	Example
Natural Madd مد طبيعي	A long vowel with no Hamzah or Sukoon after it	**2** counts	قَالَ · قِيلَ · يَقُولُ
Connected Madd مد متصل	Hamzah right after the long vowel, in the same word	**4–5** counts	جَاءَ · السَّمَاءِ
Separated Madd مد منفصل	Long vowel at the end of a word, Hamzah at the start of the next	**4–5** counts	يَا أَيُّهَا · بِمَا أُنزِلَ
Necessary Madd مد لازم	A permanent Sukoon or Shaddah after the long vowel	**6** counts	الضَّالِّينَ · آلْآنَ
Madd for stopping مد عارض للسكون	You stop on a word and the long vowel is just before the last letter	**2, 4 or 6**	الْعَالَمِينْ · نَسْتَعِينْ
Madd Leen مد اللين	Waw or Ya with Sukoon after a Fatha, when stopping	**2, 4 or 6**	خَوْفْ · الْبَيْتْ

6. Heavy letters حروف الاستعلاء

Always read full and deep (tafkheem). All other letters are light, except Ra, the Lam of "Allah" and an Alif after a heavy letter.

خُصَّ ضَغْطٍ قِظْ

7. The Lam in "Allah" لام لفظ الجلالة

Heavy after a Fatha or Dhamma:

قَالَ اللَّهُ · رَسُولُ اللَّهِ

Light after a Kasra:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ · لِلَّهِ

8. Sun & Moon letters اللام الشمسية والقمرية

Sun: the Lam of ال is silent and the next letter doubles:

الشَّمْسُ · النَّاسُ

Moon: the Lam is pronounced. The 14 moon letters are in the phrase ابْغِ حَجَّكَ وَخَفْ عَقِيمَهُ

الْقَمَرُ · الْكِتَابُ

9. The letter Ra الراء

Heavy with Fatha or Dhamma, or Sukoon after them:

رَبِّ · رُزِقُوا · مَرْيَمَ

Light with Kasra, or Sukoon after a Kasra:

رِجَالٌ · فِرْعَوْنَ

A few exceptions exist, e.g. قِرْطَاسٍ stays heavy.

10. Stop signs علامات الوقف

as printed in the Madinah Mushaf

مـ	لا	ج	صلے	قلے	ۛ ۛ
Must stop: keeps the meaning right	Do not stop here	Stop or continue	May stop; continuing is better	May continue; stopping is better	Stop at one of the two, not both

When you stop on a word, its last vowel becomes a Sukoon (a Tanween with Fatha becomes a long "a"). Never stop in the middle of a word.

Have your recitation checked by a qualified teacher · qariacademy.com

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Free practice chart from Qari Academy. A chart cannot hear you: pronunciation is best learned with a teacher.