

# Guide to using the Phonics tool

This is a guide to the Skillswise Phonics tool at [bbc.co.uk/skillswise/game/game-phonics-tool](http://bbc.co.uk/skillswise/game/game-phonics-tool)

We use around 40 sounds to speak English. You can hear them more clearly if you slow down words and say each sound one by one. For example "lock" has three sounds, "l-o-ck".

Use this Phonics tool to listen to the sounds of spoken English and break down words into sounds.

## Choose a voice

- People with different accents say and read words in different ways.
- Choose a speaker who has an accent you are familiar with.

## Choose a stage

- You can choose from three stages.



## Stage 1



- Listen to sounds the speaker uses by clicking on the speech bubbles.
- Break down the word into sounds by clicking on the down arrow on the right.
- Then play the sounds in the word by clicking on the speaker's picture.
- Read the word at the top while you listen.
- For a new word, click the button in the top corner.

## Stage 2

- In Stage 2, you can break down both words and sentences into sounds.
- Break the sentence down into sounds by clicking on the down arrow on the right.
- Then play the sounds in the sentence by clicking on the speaker's picture.
- Read the sentence at the top while you listen.
- For a new sentence, click on the button with the four arrows.



## Stage 3



- In Stage 3, you can type or paste in your own words and sentences.
- Type or paste a word or sentence into the white box.
- Break your sentence down into sounds by clicking on the down arrow on the right.
- Then play the sounds in the sentence by clicking on the speaker's picture.
- Read the sentence at the top as you listen.