

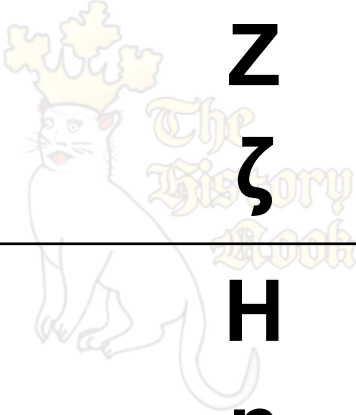
Greek Alphabet Info Sheet

By The History Nook

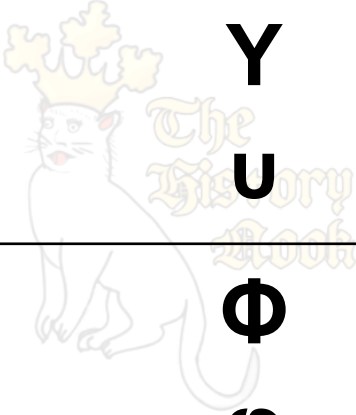
This guide aims to help you get familiar with the Greek alphabet used in Classical Greece to aid in reading Greek texts. and so does not include detailed information about pronunciation.

A separate, and more detailed pronunciation guide will be available in the future.

A α	alpha a (as in cat)
B β	beta b
Γ γ	gamma g (as in game)
Δ δ	delta d
E ε	epsilon e (as in egg)

 Ζ ζ	zeta z
Η η	eta e (like the a in fate)
Θ θ	theta th (an aspirated t)
Ι ι	iota i (as in kit)
Κ κ	kappa k
Λ λ	lambda l
Μ μ	mu m

 N ν	nu n
Ξ ξ	xi ks
O ο	omikron o (as in on)
Π π	pi p
P ρ	rho rh (as aspirated r)
Σ σ / ς	sigma s ς is used at the end of words only
T τ	tau t

 Υ υ	 upsilon u (as in the French tu) y
 Φ φ	 phi ph (an aspirated p)
 Χ χ	 chi kh
 Ψ ψ	 psi ps
 Ω ω	 omega o (as in open)

Capital Letters

Capital letters are only used for proper nouns, not at the beginning of sentences.

Breathings: Breathings count as part of the spelling of the word.

Rough breathings: ^ˆ is placed over the first or second vowel in a word and indicates that an 'h' sound is to be used at the start of the word when spoken. If a capital letter is first in the word, they go on the second letter.

Smooth breathing: ' The same rules apply as rough breathing, except that they indicate no 'h' sound at the start of the word.

Accents:

Accents are not part of the spelling of a word and are a relatively modern addition to the Greek alphabet. They are used solely for pronunciation and can generally be ignored when reading Classical Greek texts.

Iota Subscript

When iota (ι) comes after a long vowel, it will appear underneath the vowel.

A note on pronunciations:

There is such a thing as "Restored classical pronunciation", which some institutions use when teaching Classical Greek. However, we can not say for certain how Greek would have sounded. So, if the pronunciation guidance given above does not match your own, that's fine. The most important thing is to keep your pronunciation consistent, as it will help you learn the language.

Even if you never speak Classical Greek out loud to anyone else, speaking it to yourself will hasten your learning.