

The term 'classical pronunciation' refers to modern scholarship's best guess at how Latin may have been pronounced by the educated elite in the late Republic. This guide may be used instead of the Christian pronunciation guide provided in the front of the book.

Vowels

Vowels are either long or short. To keep from cluttering the text, we did not mark each vowel. In practice, it is best to listen to the classical pronunciation audio available from Memoria Press (www.memoriapress.com) to learn the correct vowel sound.

<u>long</u>	<u>as in</u>	<u>example</u>	<u>short</u>	<u>as in</u>	<u>example</u>
ā	father	frâter	a*	again	mensa
ē	late	sêdês	e	let	et
ī	seen	amîcus	i	sit	cibus
ō	open	nômen	o	offer	novem
ū	food	lûna	u	foot	sum

* When short a is in a stressed (accented) syllable, it is pronounced like long ā.

Diphthongs are long.

<u>Diphthong</u>	<u>as in</u>	<u>example</u>
ae	bite	caelum
oe	boil	proelium
au	cow	laudo

Consonants

Consonants are pronounced as in English, with the following exceptions.

c	always hard: cat	voco, cibus
g	always hard: go	fuga, tergi
sc	always hard: escape	scribo, discipulus
h	always pronounced <i>h</i> except in transliteration of Greek letters (th, ch, ph)	hora, mihi /t/: theatrum, /c/:chorus, /f/: phalanx
qu	as in <i>quit</i>	equus, qui
s	as sing (never as z)	mensa, misi
t	as in <i>test</i>	nuntius
v	as <i>w</i> in <i>west</i>	verbum ('v' is sometimes written as 'u')