

## KEY TO THE YAKIMA PRACTICAL ALPHABET

|     |              |  |
|-----|--------------|--|
| a   | short a      | ám <u>husband</u><br>ásham <u>wife</u><br>wáshat <u>riding</u>                             |
| aa  | long a       | káatnam <u>long</u><br>táak <u>meadow</u><br>wáashat <u>Indian religion; dancing</u>       |
| ch  | soft ch      | chfish <u>water</u><br>chámti <u>new</u><br>íchi <u>this</u>                               |
| ch' | hard ch      | ch'ám <u>sharp</u><br>nch'í <u>big, large</u><br>ch'íya <u>flicker (a bird)</u>            |
| h   | aitch        | háasht <u>breath</u><br>hawláak <u>spirit; abyss; bottomless space</u><br>hulí <u>wind</u> |
| i   | short i      | ímk <u>you</u><br>íksiks <u>little, small</u><br>pípsá <u>bone</u>                         |
| ii  | long ii      | íi <u>yes</u><br>níipt <u>two</u><br>tfin <u>Indian, person</u>                            |
| ī  | barred ī    | ím <u>mouth</u><br>áshím <u>come in!</u><br>kítu <u>fast, quickly, swiftly</u>             |
| k   | soft front k | kápin <u>diggingstick</u><br>kálux <u>blueback salmon</u><br>kayáasu <u>arrow</u>          |
| k'  | hard front k | k'ámamul <u>bald eagle</u><br>k'aywá <u>short</u><br>k'úsi <u>horse</u>                    |

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|------------|---------------|---|
| <u>k</u>   | soft back k   | <u>kashkáash</u> <u>roan horse</u><br><u>twískaka</u> <u>robin</u><br><u>íkú</u> <u>heavy</u>                           |
| <u>k'</u>  | hard back k   | <u>k'ayík</u> <u>colt</u> , <u>calf</u> , <u>elk calf</u><br><u>k'úxí</u> <u>knee</u><br><u>k'shpalí</u> <u>buzzard</u> |
| kw         | soft front kw | <u>kwíkw</u> <u>whistling</u><br><u>kwyám</u> <u>true</u><br><u>áykw</u> <u>cottontail rabbit</u>                       |
| <u>kw'</u> | hard front kw | <u>kw'ayawí</u> <u>mountain lion</u> , <u>cougar</u><br><u>skw'ípa</u> <u>morning</u><br><u>íkw'ak</u> <u>that</u>      |
| <u>kw</u>  | soft back kw  | <u>ikwátsha</u> <u>he's stuck</u><br><u>kwninkwninlá</u> <u>peddler</u><br><u>pakwchtpamá</u> <u>electric socket</u>    |
| <u>kw'</u> | hard back kw  | <u>kw'áshkw'ash</u> <u>crane</u><br><u>kw'ít</u> <u>plain</u> , <u>visible</u><br><u>núkw'ash</u> <u>throat</u>         |
| l          | ell           | <u>lákas</u> <u>mouse</u><br><u>latít</u> <u>flower</u><br><u>lulúu</u> <u>smooth</u>                                   |
| ł          | barred ł      | <u>łíkw'i</u> <u>all day</u><br><u>łímtáx</u> <u>head</u><br><u>łk'ám</u> <u>moccasins</u>                              |
| m          | em            | <u>mámán</u> <u>Appaloosa horse</u><br><u>mímím</u> <u>dove</u><br><u>miyáwax</u> <u>chief</u>                          |
| n          | enn           | <u>nawát</u> <u>belly</u><br><u>nusúx</u> <u>salmon</u><br><u>núshnu</u> <u>nose</u>                                    |

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|-----|---------------------|--|
| p   | soft p              | pamtá <u>toad</u><br>pápsh <u>fir tree</u><br>plásh <u>white</u>   |
| p'  | hard p              | p'íp'i <u>guts, intestines</u><br>p'íyu <u>nighthawk</u><br>p'ushtáy <u>hill</u>   |
| s   | ess                 | sawítk <u>Indian carrot</u><br>Spilyáy <u>Coyote</u><br>asúm <u>eel, lamprey</u>   |
| sh  | ess-aitch           | sháxat <u>raspberry</u><br>shúshaynsh <u>steelhead</u><br>shwá <u>forehead</u>   |
| t   | soft t              | táp'ash <u>pine tree</u><br>táshtash <u>canvasback duck</u><br>tiskáy <u>skunk</u>   |
| t'  | hard t              | t'ixt'ix <u>swallow (a bird)</u><br>t'ft'sh <u>grasshopper</u><br>t'álp't <u>wampum</u>  |
| tḷ | soft tee-barred ell | tlúpt <u>jumping</u><br>ktláak <u>jagged</u><br>ptláak <u>bitter, pepper</u>   |
| tl' | hard tee-ell        | tl'álk <u>blacktail deer</u><br>tl'áaxw <u>all</u><br>tl'ítl'íṃxw <u>redwing blackbird</u>  |
| ts  | soft tee-ess        | tsawktsáwk <u>red hot</u><br>páts <u>your younger brother</u><br>(a woman's word)<br>tsníts <u>your younger sister</u><br>(a man's word) |

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|           |              |                                |
|-----------|--------------|--------------------------------|
| ts'       | hard tee-ess | ts'áa <u>near</u>              |
|           |              | ts'í <u>sweet</u>              |
|           |              | ts'uníps <u>oak tree</u>       |
| u         | short u      | útpaas <u>blanket, robe</u>    |
|           |              | múps <u>fawn</u>               |
|           |              | púsha <u>father's father</u>   |
| uu        | long u       | púush <u>juniper tree</u>      |
|           |              | ttúush <u>some</u>             |
|           |              | ap'úus <u>cat</u>              |
| w         | double-you   | wawá <u>mosquito</u>           |
|           |              | watám <u>lake</u>              |
|           |              | wilalík <u>jackrabbit</u>      |
| x         | front eks    | íwíx <u>thin</u>               |
|           |              | kawxkáwx <u>palomino horse</u> |
|           |              | p'isx <u>sour</u>              |
| <u>x</u>  | back eks     | xálish <u>wolf</u>             |
|           |              | xátxat <u>mallard duck</u>     |
|           |              | kawxkawx <u>shiny</u>          |
| xw        | front eks-w  | kwáyxw <u>basket net</u>       |
|           |              | ts'xwílí <u>tepee</u>          |
| <u>xw</u> | back eks-w   | xwáshxway <u>bluejay</u>       |
|           |              | xwayamá <u>golden eagle</u>    |
|           |              | xwán <u>sucker (a fish)</u>    |
| y         | why          | yápaash <u>grease</u>          |
|           |              | yáxa <u>beaver</u>             |
|           |              | yáamash <u>mule deer</u>       |
| '         | glottal stop | á'a <u>crow</u>                |
|           |              | áy'ay <u>maggie</u>            |
|           |              | pu'úú <u>blind</u>             |

## KEY TO THE YAKIMA PRACTICAL ALPHABET

There are also eight diphthongs. A diphthong is a combination sound that consists of a short or long vowel plus y or w.

Some examples of diphthongs in Yakima words are:

|     |  |
|-----|--|
| ay  | páysh <u>maybe</u><br>sikáywa <u>breadroot</u>         |
| aay | yáay <u>beargrass</u>                                  |
| uy  | anahúy <u>black bear</u><br>ts'múy <u>warm</u>         |
| uuy | húuy <u>can't</u><br>púuy <u>snow</u>                  |
| aw  | cháw <u>no</u><br>ka'áw <u>fast, quick, swift</u>      |
| aaw | ka'áaw <u>lightweight</u><br>wáaw <u>mountain goat</u> |
| iw  | kíwkiwlas <u>drum</u><br>wíwnu <u>huckleberry</u>      |
| iiw | fiwsh <u>urine</u>                                     |