

The Hebrew Alphabet (information compiled by Eric Rosenbloom)

Letter			Name	Spelt	Value	Transliterated	Representing	Also Meaning	Tarot Qabal
Square	Script	Rashi							
			Alef	ALPh	1	A, ' (silent)	ox (head)	thousand, clan, cattle; to learn, teach, train, tame	0, fool (youth AIR)
	 		Bheth, Beth	BYTh	2	Bh (V), B	house	household, stanza, 2000?	1, mag (build Mercu & dear
			Gimel	GYML	3	G, Gh	camel	3000?	2, high prieste (virgin Moon, & strif
			Daleth	DLTh	4	D, Dh (hard Th)	door	page of scroll, first half of verse	3, emp (mother Venus wisdom folly
			He	HA	5	H	window	lo, behold, this, and	4, emp (father Aries
			Vav	VV	6	V, W	peg, hook, yoke?		5, hier (revel: hearin Taurus
			Zayin	ZYN	7	Z	dagger		6, love & id); Gemir
			Cheth	ChYTh	8	Ch (guttural H)	enclosure, fence		7, cha (victori speech

									Cance
ט	ט	ט	Teth	TYTh	9	T (palatal)	snake, basket, bale, sieve?, ear?		8, stre (diges Leo
י	י	י	Yod	YVD	10	Y	hand (open)		9, herr (union touch) Virgo
כ כ	כ כ	כ כ	Khaf, Kaf	KPh	20, 500 (final)	Kh, K	fist (grasping), palm of hand	sole of foot, spoon, cave, vault, curve	10, wh fortun (perio Jupiter & pov
ל	ל	ל	Lamed	LMD	30	L	ox whip	to learn, study, teach, train; study, learning; studied, deduced, defined	11, jus (balan Libra
מ מ	מ מ	מ מ	Mem	MM	40, 600 (final)	M	water	seas	12, ha man (subm WATI
נ נ	נ נ	נ נ	Nun	NVN	50, 700 (final)	N	fish (head), water serpent?	to sprout, grow	13, de (libera Scorpi
ס	ס	ס	Samekh	SMKh	60	S (emphatic)	tent-post, pillar, foundation	support; to support, lean, ordain	14, ter (contr (anger Sagitta
ע	ע	ע	'Ayin	OYN	70	O, ' , 'A, Ñ? (silent)	eye	source, spring, ring, hole, sight	15, de (sense mirth) Capric

			Phe, Pe	PA	80, 800 (final)	Ph (F), P	mouth (for speech)		16, tov (fallac Mars, (beaut
			Tsadi	TsDY	90, 900 (final)	Ts, Tz, J	fishhook, scythe?, bow?		17, sta (exper though Aquar
			Qof	QVPh	100	Q	back of head	monkey, ape, eye of needle, hole for axe handle	18, M (sleep) Pisces
			Resh	RYSh	200	R	head (face)	to be poor; poverty	19, Su (reaso Sun, fruitfu sterilit
			Shin, Sin	ShYN	300	Sh, S	teeth, fang?		20, ju (regen FIRE
			Thav, Tav	TV	400	Th, T	mark	sign, musical note, postage stamp	21, wo (return Saturn domin slaver;

Notes.

All of these 22 characters are consonants. (There are also 16 vowels, indicated by dots and lines dancing around the consonants.)

The number of consonants is augmented by 5 alternative forms (Bh/B, Kh/K, Ph/P, S/Sh, Th/T), a dot indicating the less aspirate sound, and by 5 final forms (for Kh, M, N, Ph, Ts).

Many of the representations are presumed from those of Old Hebrew, Aramaic, or Phoenician forms, as the Modern Hebrew forms are much more abstract. Many of the original forms themselves derive from Egyptian hieroglyphic alphabets, probably their hieratic forms.

Kabbalistic origin: The spirit of the name (ShAM) gave rise to ALPh as air, out of which came MM as

water, out of which came ShYN as fire; these are the 3 mother letters. Then were made the 7 doubles (aspirate/unaspirate) to correspond with the heavenly spheres, and then the 12 simples that correspond to the zodiacal months. [GYML, DLTh, and RYSh were apparently originally doubles. And as ShYN hovers between being a mother and a double, QVPh is both double and simple.]

Note that 22 letters divided by 7 doubles is a close approximation of pi, the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter, and that 22 *plus* 7 (plus Q's share of the moon's sphere) is the number of days in a lunar month.