

## Phonology

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Tina has 19 [phonemes](#): 16 [consonants](#) and three [vowels](#). Syllable structure is relatively simple.

## Vowels

Tina has three vowels. They are:

- /a/ an [open front unrounded vowel](#) similar to [English](#) ‘father’
- /i/ a [close front unrounded vowel](#) similar to English ‘machine’
- /u/ (written as ‘o’) a [close back unrounded vowel](#) similar to English ‘flute’

There are five main [diphthongs](#): /aɪ/, /uɪ/, /aʊ/, /ij/, and /iʊ/.

## Consonants

Below is a chart of Tina consonants. All the stops are unaspirated. The [velar nasal](#) occurs in all positions including at the beginning of a word.

		<a href="#">Bilabial</a>	<a href="#">Dental</a>	<a href="#">Palatal</a>	<a href="#">Velar</a>	<a href="#">Glottal</a>
<a href="#">Stops</a>	Voiceless	p	t		c [k]	(-) [ʔ]
	Voiced	b	d		g	
<a href="#">Affricates</a>	Voiceless			(ts) [tʃ]		
	Voiced					
<a href="#">Fricatives</a>			s			h
<a href="#">Nasals</a>		m	n		ng [ŋ]	
<a href="#">Laterals</a>			l			
<a href="#">Flaps</a>			r			
<a href="#">Semivowels</a>		w		y [j]		

Note: Consonants [d] and [r] sometimes interchange, as they were once allophones. *Dy* is pronounced [dʒ], *ny* [ŋ], *sy* [j], and *ty* [tʃ].

## **Stress**

Stress is phonemic in Tina. Stress on words is very important, they differentiate words with the same spellings, but with different meanings, e.g. *hikó* (I) and *híko* (elbow).

## **Historical sound changes**

Many words pronounced with /s/ and /g/ in [Filipino](#) and [Cebuano](#) are pronounced with /h/ and /j/, respectively, in their cognates in Tina. Compare *hiko* and *ba-yo* with the Filipino *siko* and *bago*.

[http://wapedia.mobi/en/Tina\\_language](http://wapedia.mobi/en/Tina_language)