Naskh alphabet and practice sheets

The Naskh alphabet: every letter below, each in the shapes it takes alone, at the start, in the middle and at the end of a word. Trace any letter on screen, or print its free A4 practice sheet, or save it as a PDF from your browser's print window. Or download the whole workbook as one PDF.

Learn Naskh step by step: the 43-lesson path →

Watch the lesson films, in English and Arabic: level 1 is free →

Naskh is where most calligraphers begin, because it is the hand every Arabic reader already knows: printed books and most of the Quran pages people read imitate it. Below is the whole alphabet in Naskh, each letter in the four shapes it takes — standing alone, opening a word, inside a word and closing it — set in Amiri, a typeface drawn after the Naskh of the Bulaq press. Six letters never join to the letter after them, so they have only two shapes. Every letter opens in Mashq Studio as a trace: the letter is set faintly in Naskh, you write over it with a stroke like a reed pen's, cut to the Naskh pen angle, using a mouse, a finger or an iPad pen, and the studio measures how much of the letter you covered. The printable sheet gives you the model row and rows to trace over by hand, at A4, with a baseline for each row. Practise one letter at a time, in all its forms, before joining any.



five dots

The measure: the Naskh alif stands five dots tall. One dot is the pen drawn its own width, and the dots stand corner on corner.

Letter	Alone	First	Middle	Last	
alif	ا	ـا	ـا	ـا	Trace Print sheet
baa	ب	بـ	ـبـ	ـب	Trace Print sheet

Letter	Alone	First	Middle	Last	
taa	ت	تـ	ـتـ	ـت	Trace Print sheet
thaa	ث	ثـ	ـثـ	ـث	Trace Print sheet
jeem	ج	جـ	ـجـ	ـج	Trace Print sheet
haa	ح	حـ	ـحـ	ـح	Trace Print sheet
khaa	خ	خـ	ـخـ	ـخ	Trace Print sheet
daal	د	–	–	ـد	Trace Print sheet
dhaal	ذ	–	–	ـذ	Trace Print sheet
raa	ر	–	–	ـر	Trace Print sheet
zay	ز	–	–	ـز	Trace Print sheet
seen	س	سـ	ـسـ	ـس	Trace Print sheet
sheen	ش	شـ	ـشـ	ـش	Trace Print sheet
saad	ص	صـ	ـصـ	ـص	Trace Print sheet
daad	ض	ضـ	ـضـ	ـض	Trace Print sheet
taa (emphatic)	ط	طـ	ـطـ	ـط	Trace Print sheet

Letter	Alone	First	Middle	Last	
zaa	ظ	ظ	ظ	ظ	Trace Print sheet
ain	ع	عـ	ـعـ	ـع	Trace Print sheet
ghain	غ	غـ	ـغـ	ـغ	Trace Print sheet
faa	ف	فـ	ـفـ	ـف	Trace Print sheet
qaaf	ق	قـ	ـقـ	ـق	Trace Print sheet
kaaf	ك	كـ	ـكـ	ـك	Trace Print sheet
laam	ل	لـ	ـلـ	ـل	Trace Print sheet
meem	م	مـ	ـمـ	ـم	Trace Print sheet
noon	ن	نـ	ـنـ	ـن	Trace Print sheet
haa (soft)	ه	هـ	ـهـ	ـه	Trace Print sheet
waw	و	–	–	ـو	Trace Print sheet
yaa	ي	يـ	ـيـ	ـي	Trace Print sheet

Sentences from the master pieces

Once the letters hold, write whole sentences. These are the complete lines of our calligrapher's Thuluth master pieces, shortest first, set here in the Amiri typeface.

الله ولي التوفيق	God grants success	Trace Print sheet
أستغفر الله مما كان	I seek God’s forgiveness for what has been	Trace Print sheet
إن البذاذة من الإيمان	Plainness is part of faith	Trace Print sheet
سبحانك اللهم وبحمدك	Glory be to You, O God, and with Your praise	Trace Print sheet
بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم	In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful	Trace Print sheet
أعوذ بالله السميع العليم من الشيطان الرجيم	I seek refuge in God, the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing, from Satan the outcast	Trace Print sheet
سبحانك اللهم وبحمدك، وتبارك اسمك، وتعالى جدك، وجل ثناؤك، ولا إله غيرك	Glory be to You, O God, and with Your praise; blessed is Your name, exalted is Your majesty, great is Your praise, and there is no god but You	Print sheet

Trace opens each letter in Naskh with a stroke like a reed pen’s, cut to its pen angle and measured from the letters themselves: thick and thin come from the direction you pull, with a mouse, a finger or an iPad pen. There are no numbered strokes; the studio measures how much of the true letter you covered. · Naskh phrases to try · the history of Naskh · for teachers

Practice sheets in the other scripts: Thuluth · Ruq'ah · Diwani · Farsi (Nastaliq)

Naskh calligraphy art for sale

Naskh · alif

ا	ا
ا	ا
ا	ا
ا	ا
ا	ا

Naskh · baa

ب	بـ	ـبـ	ـب
ب	بـ	ـبـ	ـب
ب	بـ	ـبـ	ـب
ب	بـ	ـبـ	ـب
ب	بـ	ـبـ	ـب

Naskh · taa

ت	تـ	ـتـ	ـت
ت	تـ	ـتـ	ـت
ت	تـ	ـتـ	ـت
ت	تـ	ـتـ	ـت
ت	تـ	ـتـ	ـت

Naskh · thaa

ث	ڎ	ڏ	ٹ
ث	ڎ	ڏ	ٹ
ث	ڎ	ڏ	ٹ
ث	ڎ	ڏ	ٹ
ث	ڎ	ڏ	ٹ

Naskh · jeem

ج	ـجـ	ـج	ج
ج	ـجـ	ـج	ج
ج	ـجـ	ـج	ج
ج	ـجـ	ـج	ج
ج	ـجـ	ـج	ج

ح ح ح ح

ح ح ح ح

ح ح ح ح

ح ح ح ح

ح ح ح ح

Naskh · khaa

خ	خـ	ـخ	خ
خ	خـ	ـخ	خ
خ	خـ	ـخ	خ
خ	خـ	ـخ	خ
خ	خـ	ـخ	خ

د	ـد
د	ـد
د	ـد
د	ـد
د	ـد

Naskh · dhaal

ذ	ذ
ذ	ذ
ذ	ذ
ذ	ذ
ذ	ذ

Naskh · raa

ر	ر
ر	ر
ر	ر
ر	ر
ر	ر

ز	ز
ز	ز
ز	ز
ز	ز
ز	ز

Naskh · seen

س	سـ	ـسـ	ـس
س	سـ	ـسـ	ـس
س	سـ	ـسـ	ـس
س	سـ	ـسـ	ـس
س	سـ	ـسـ	ـس

Naskh · sheen

ش	شـ	ـشـ	ـش
ش	شـ	ـشـ	ـش
ش	شـ	ـشـ	ـش
ش	شـ	ـشـ	ـش
ش	شـ	ـشـ	ـش

ص	ـصـ	ـص	ص
ص	ـصـ	ـص	ص
ص	ـصـ	ـص	ص
ص	ـصـ	ـص	ص
ص	ـصـ	ـص	ص

ض	ضـ	ـضـ	ـض
ض	ضـ	ـضـ	ـض
ض	ضـ	ـضـ	ـض
ض	ضـ	ـضـ	ـض
ض	ضـ	ـضـ	ـض

Naskh · taa (emphatic)

ط ط ط ط

ط ط ط ط

ط ط ط ط

ط ط ط ط

ط ط ط ط

Naskh · zaa

ظ ظ ظ ظ

ظ ظ ظ ظ

ظ ظ ظ ظ

ظ ظ ظ ظ

ظ ظ ظ ظ

ع	ع	ع	ع
ع	ع	ع	ع
ع	ع	ع	ع
ع	ع	ع	ع
ع	ع	ع	ع

Naskh · ghain

غ	غـ	ـغـ	ـغ
غ	غـ	ـغـ	ـغ
غ	غـ	ـغـ	ـغ
غ	غـ	ـغـ	ـغ
غ	غـ	ـغـ	ـغ

Naskh · faa

ف	فـ	ـفـ	ـف
ف	فـ	ـفـ	ـف
ف	فـ	ـفـ	ـف
ف	فـ	ـفـ	ـف
ف	فـ	ـفـ	ـف

Naskh · qaaf

ق	قـ	ـقـ	ـق
ق	قـ	ـقـ	ـق
ق	قـ	ـقـ	ـق
ق	قـ	ـقـ	ـق
ق	قـ	ـقـ	ـق

Naskh · kaaf

ك	ك	ك	ك
ك	ك	ك	ك
ك	ك	ك	ك
ك	ك	ك	ك
ك	ك	ك	ك

Naskh · laam

ل	ا	ـا	ـل
ل	ا	ـا	ـل
ل	ا	ـا	ـل
ل	ا	ـا	ـل
ل	ا	ـا	ـل

Naskh · meem

م مـ ـمـ ـم

Naskh · noon

ن	نـ	ـنـ	ـن
ن	نـ	ـنـ	ـن
ن	نـ	ـنـ	ـن
ن	نـ	ـنـ	ـن
ن	نـ	ـنـ	ـن

Naskh · haa (soft)

ه	ھ	ھ	ہ
ه	ھ	ھ	ہ
ه	ھ	ھ	ہ
ه	ھ	ھ	ہ
ه	ھ	ھ	ہ

Naskh · waw

و	و
و	و
و	و
و	و
و	و
و	و

ي	ـيـ	ـيـ	ي
ي	ـيـ	ـيـ	ي
ي	ـيـ	ـيـ	ي
ي	ـيـ	ـيـ	ي
ي	ـيـ	ـيـ	ي

Finished the workbook? The lesson on screen measures what you write.

Mashq Learn has 43 lessons in each script: you write the letter over the model, then beside it, then from memory, and it is measured in dots the way calligraphers measure it.

The first 2 lessons are free, with no account: https://studio.mashq.ae/learn/path/naskh

The whole course in one script is Mashq Smart: AED 15 a month or AED 120 a year. https://studio.mashq.ae/learn/plans?from=workbooks