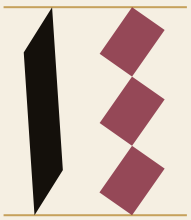
Ruq'ah alphabet and practice sheets

The Ruq'ah 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 Ruq'ah step by step: the 43-lesson path →

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

Ruq'ah is the hand most Arabic readers write in every day. It took its settled form in the Ottoman offices of the nineteenth century as a fast, economical script, and it still shows it: the letters are short, they sit on the line, bowls are shallow and the dots of two or three often merge into a single stroke. Below is the whole alphabet in Ruq'ah, each letter in the four shapes it takes — alone, opening a word, inside a word and closing it — set in Aref Ruqaa, an open-licence face drawn after the classical Ruq'ah hand. Because it is written quickly and stays low, Ruq'ah is a good second script after Naskh and a natural one for anyone who wants their own handwriting to improve. Trace opens each letter in Ruq'ah with a stroke like a reed pen's, cut to the script's own pen angle: trace over it and the studio measures how much of the letter you covered; the printable sheet sets the Ruq'ah model at the top of an A4 page with rows to trace over by hand.



three dots

The measure: the Ruq'ah alif stands three dots tall. One dot is the pen drawn a short way, less than its own width, and the dots stand corner on corner.

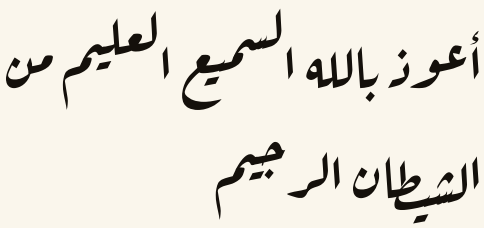
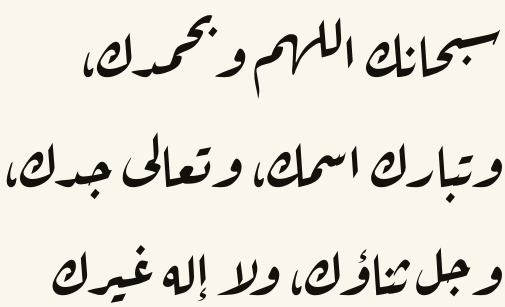
Letter	Alone	First	Middle	Last	
alif	ا	—	—	ا	Trace Print sheet

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

Letter	Alone	First	Middle	Last	
taa (emphatic)	ط	طـ	ـطـ	ـط	Trace Print sheet
zaa	ظ	ظـ	ـظـ	ـظ	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 Aref Ruqaa typeface.

	God grants success	Trace Print sheet
	I seek God’s forgiveness for what has been	Trace Print sheet
	Plainness is part of faith	Trace Print sheet
	Glory be to You, O God, and with Your praise	Trace Print sheet
	In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful	Trace Print sheet
	I seek refuge in God, the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing, from Satan the outcast	Trace Print sheet
	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 Ruq'ah 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. · Ruq'ah phrases to try · the history of Ruq'ah · for teachers

Practice sheets in the other scripts: Naskh · Thuluth · Diwani · Farsi (Nastaliq)

Ruq'ah calligraphy art for sale

Ruq'ah · alif










Ruq'ah · baa

ب	بـ	بـ	ب
ب	بـ	بـ	ب
ب	بـ	بـ	ب
ب	بـ	بـ	ب
ب	بـ	بـ	ب

تَ	تَ	تَ	تَ
تَ	تَ	تَ	تَ
تَ	تَ	تَ	تَ
تَ	تَ	تَ	تَ
تَ	تَ	تَ	تَ

ث	ثـ	ـثـ	ـث
ث	ثـ	ـثـ	ـث
ث	ثـ	ـثـ	ـث
ث	ثـ	ـثـ	ـث
ث	ثـ	ـثـ	ـث

ج	جـ	جـ	ع
ج	جـ	جـ	ع
ج	جـ	جـ	ع
ج	جـ	جـ	ع
ج	جـ	جـ	ع

ع ه د ح

ع ه د ح

ع ه د ح

ع ه د ح

ع ه د ح

خ	ﺧ	ﺨ	غ
خ	ﺧ	ﺨ	غ
خ	ﺧ	ﺨ	غ
خ	ﺧ	ﺨ	غ
خ	ﺧ	ﺨ	غ

ـد	د
ـد	د
ـد	د
ـد	د
ـد	د

ذ	ز
ذ	ز
ذ	ز
ذ	ز
ذ	ز

Ruq'ah · raa










ز ز

ز ز

ز ز

ز ز

ز ز

Ruq'ah · seen

س س س س

س س س س

س س س س

س س س س

س س س س

Ruq'ah · sheen

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

ص	صـ	صـ	ص
ص	صـ	صـ	ص
ص	صـ	صـ	ص
ص	صـ	صـ	ص
ص	صـ	صـ	ص

ض	ضـ	ضـ	ض
ض	ضـ	ضـ	ض
ض	ضـ	ضـ	ض
ض	ضـ	ضـ	ض
ض	ضـ	ضـ	ض
ض	ضـ	ضـ	ض

Ruq'ah · taa (emphatic)

ط ط ط ط

ط ط ط ط

ط ط ط ط

ط ط ط ط

ط ط ط ط

ظ ظ ظ ظ

ظ ظ ظ ظ

ظ ظ ظ ظ

ظ ظ ظ ظ

ظ ظ ظ ظ

ع	ء	ـء	ـع
ع	ء	ـء	ـع
ع	ء	ـء	ـع
ع	ء	ـء	ـع
ع	ء	ـء	ـع

Ruq'ah · ghain

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

ف	ڤ	ڤ	ڤ
ف	ڤ	ڤ	ڤ
ف	ڤ	ڤ	ڤ
ف	ڤ	ڤ	ڤ
ف	ڤ	ڤ	ڤ
ف	ڤ	ڤ	ڤ

ق	قَ	قَ	ق
ق	قَ	قَ	ق
ق	قَ	قَ	ق
ق	قَ	قَ	ق
ق	قَ	قَ	ق

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

Ruq'ah · laam

ل	ـلـ	ـلا	لا
ل	ـلـ	ـلا	لا
ل	ـلـ	ـلا	لا
ل	ـلـ	ـلا	لا
ل	ـلـ	ـلا	لا

Ruq'ah · meem



ن	ز	نـ	ـن
ن	ز	نـ	ـن
ن	ز	نـ	ـن
ن	ز	نـ	ـن
ن	ز	نـ	ـن
ن	ز	نـ	ـن

٩	٦	ھ	ہ
٩	٦	ھ	ہ
٩	٦	ھ	ہ
٩	٦	ھ	ہ
٩	٦	ھ	ہ

Ruq'ah · waw

و	و
و	و
و	و
و	و
و	و
و	و

ي	يـ	ـيـ	ـي
ي	يـ	ـيـ	ـي
ي	يـ	ـيـ	ـي
ي	يـ	ـيـ	ـي
ي	يـ	ـيـ	ـي

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/ruqah

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