

# The Cantonese Sound System 粵語音系

(in the LSHK Jyutping letters)

jyut6 jyu5 jam1 hai6

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X
1 <b>b</b> [p]	5 <b>d</b> [t]	9 <b>g</b> [k]	13 <b>gw</b> [kʷ]	16 <b>z</b> [ts]	20 <b>aa</b> [a]	24 <b>o</b> [ɔ]~[o]	29 <b>-i</b> [i]	31 <b>-m</b> [m]	34 <b>-p</b> [p̄]
2 <b>p</b> [pʰ]	6 <b>t</b> [tʰ]	10 <b>k</b> [kʰ]	14 <b>kw</b> [kʷʰ]	17 <b>c</b> [tsʰ]	21 <b>a</b> [ə]	25 <b>u</b> [u]~[ʊ]	30 <b>-u</b> [u]	32 <b>-n</b> [n]	35 <b>-t</b> [t̄]
3 <b>m</b> [m]	7 <b>n</b> [n]	11 <b>ng</b> [ŋ]	15 <b>w</b> [w]	18 <b>s</b> [s]	22 <b>e</b> [ɛ]~[e]	26 <b>oe</b> [œ]		33 <b>-ng</b> [ŋ]	36 <b>-k</b> [k̄]
4 <b>f</b> [f]	8 <b>l</b> [l]	12 <b>h</b> [h]		19 <b>j</b> [j̄]	23 <b>i</b> [i]~[ɪ]	27 <b>eo</b> [e]			
					28 <b>yu</b> [y]				

Meaning of Columns  
直列釋義

- I. Bilabial plosive/nasal; labiodental fricative initial consonants 雙唇塞音/雙唇鼻音/唇齒擦音聲母
- II. Alveolar plosive/nasal/lateral approximant initial consonants 齒齦塞音/齒齦鼻音/齒齦邊近音聲母
- III. Velar plosive/nasal; glottal fricative initial consonants 軟頸塞音/軟頸鼻音/聲門擦音聲母
- IV. Labial-velar initial consonants 舌軟頸音聲母
- V. Alveolar affricate/fricative; palatal approximant initial consonants 齒齦擦音/擦音聲母; 硬顎近音聲母
- VI. Unrounded main vowels 不圓唇韻母
- VII. Rounded main vowels 圓唇韻母
- VIII. Syllable-ending vowels 元音韻尾
- IX. Syllable-ending nasals 鼻音韻尾
- X. Syllable-ending unreleased plosives 塞音韻尾

**do1 ze6** 多謝  
"thank you (for your gift)"

**m4 goi1** 唔該  
(1) "thank you (for your help)"  
(2) "please (offer your help)"

**nei5 hou2** 你好  
"hello"

**zou2 san4** 早晨  
"good morning"

**hoeng1 gong2** 香港  
"Hong Kong"



Jyutping is a widely used Cantonese romanisation system, designed and proposed by the Linguistic Society of Hong Kong (LSHK) back in 1993.



"The Cantonese Sound System" Postcard. Designed by Lam Lap