

## Hindi

# हिन्दी

**Spoken in:** India

**Region:** South Asia

**Total speakers:** 480 million

**Genetic Classification:** Indo-European Indo-Aryan Indo-Aryan Middle Indo-Aryan Hindi

**Official language of:** India

Hindi is a language spoken in most states in northern and central India. It is an Indo-European language, of the Indo-Aryan subfamily. Hindi derives much of its formal and technical vocabulary from Sanskrit. Due to Muslim influence in Northern India, a large number of Persian, Arabic and Turkish words were adopted. There are approximately 1650 dialects spoken across India.

Hindi first started to be used in writing during the 4th century AD. It was originally written with the Brahmi script but since the 11th century AD it has been written with the Devanāgarī alphabet. The first printed book in Hindi was John Gilchrist's *Grammar of the Hindoostanee Language*, which was published in 1796.

Currently SSWAHS Health Care Interpreter Service employs 4 Hindi sessional interpreters.

## Hindi alphabet

### Vowels and vowel diacritics

अ	आ	इ	ई	उ	ऊ	ए	ऐ	ओ	औ	अं	अः	अँ	ऋ
a	ā	i	ī	u	ū	e	ai	o	au	aṅ	aḥ	āṁ	ṛ
[ə]	[a]	[i]	[i:]	[u]	[u:]	[e]	[æ:]	[o]	[ɔ:]	[aŋ]	[əh]	[ā:]	[r]
प	पा	पि	पी	पु	पू	पे	पै	पो	पौ	पं	पः	पाँ	पृ
pa	pā	pi	pī	pu	pū	pe	pai	po	pau	paṅ	paḥ	pāṁ	pr

## Consonants

क	ka	[kə]	ख	kha	[kʰə]	ग	ga	[gə]	घ	gha	[gʰə]	ङ	ṅa	[ŋə]
च	ca	[tʃə]	छ	cha	[tʃʰə]	ज	ja	[dʒə]	झ	jha	[dʒʰə]	ञ	ña	[ɲə]
ट	ṭa	[tʰə]	ठ	ṭha	[tʰʰə]	ड	ḍa	[dʱə]	ढ	ḍha	[dʱʰə]	ण	ṇa	[ɳə]
त	ta	[tə]	थ	tha	[tʰə]	द	da	[də]	ध	dha	[dʰə]	न	na	[nə]
प	pa	[pə]	फ	pha	[pʰə]	ब	ba	[bə]	भ	bha	[bʰə]	म	ma	[mə]
य	ya	[jə]	र	ra	[rə]	ल	la	[lə]	व	va	[və]			
श	śa	[ʃə]	ष	ṣa	[ʃʰə]	स	sa	[sə]						
ह	ha	[ɦə]												

Additional consonants (only used in loanwords)

क्व	qa	ख्ख	kha	ग्ग	ga	ज्ज	za	ङ्ङ	ra	ढ्ढ	rha	फ्फ	fa
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Common conjunct consonants

क्ष	kṣa	ज्ञ	jña	क्त	ttka	त्र	tra	द्व	dva	श्र	śra	द्य	dya
द्द	dda	त्त	tta	द्ध	ḍha	द्भ	dbha	द्म	dma	ह्य	hma	ह्य	hya

Special ra forms

रु	ru	रू	rū	र्प	rpa	प्र	pra	ट्रे	tre
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