

Cree and Ojibwe Syllabics

The following table provides syllabics in their standard order, and their associations with the Ojibwe double-vowel orthography.

Consonant	Vowels				(Syllable) Finals	
	e	i / ii	o / oo	a / aa	Western	Eastern
	▽	△	▷	◁		
w [Western]	▽•	△•	▷•	◁•	◦	
w [Eastern]	•▽	•△	•▷	•◁		◦
b / p	∇	∧	>	<	।	<
d / t	∪	∩	∩	∪	/	∩
g / k	q	p	d	b	\	б
j / ch	ŋ	ʀ	ʝ	ʟ	-	ʟ
m	ᄁ	ᄂ	ᄃ	ᄄ	ᄅ	ᄆ
n	ᄇ	ᄈ	ᄉ	ᄊ	ᄋ	ᄌ
z / s	ᄎ	ᄏ	ᄐ	ᄑ	ᄒ	ᄓ
zh / sh	ᄔ	ᄕ	ᄖ	ᄗ	ᄘ	ᄙ
y	ᄚ	ᄛ	ᄜ	ᄝ	•	ᄞ
r [Western]	ᄟ	ᄠ	ᄡ	ᄢ	ᄣ	
r [Eastern]	ᄤ	ᄥ	ᄦ	ᄧ	ᄨ	
l [Western]	ᄩ	ᄪ	ᄫ	ᄬ	ᄭ	
l [Eastern]	ᄮ	ᄮ	ᄮ	ᄮ	ᄮ	
h / '					"	"

Additional Symbols

Consonant	Vowels				Finals	
	e	i/ii	o/oo	a/aa	Western	Eastern
f / v	ƒ	ʌ	ɔ	ʌ		ɛ
th	ʈ	ɳ	ɥ	ʈ		ɛ

Syllable-Final /n/ When Not the Last Sound of a Word

An /n/ at the end of a syllable, when it is not the last sound in a word, is commonly not written, as in the following:

Roman	Meaning	Western	Eastern
ni ng izo	it melts	σρʃ	σρʃ
ma ng	loon	L ^ʰ	L ^b

W After Consonants

A /w/ that occurs after a consonant, as in **ikwe**, 'woman,' is factored out and placed after the resulting syllabic for Western and before it for Eastern, as in the following examples:

Roman	Meaning	Western	Eastern
i kw e	woman	Δ 9•	Δ•9
an wa atin	weather is calm	◁ ɔ•ŋ ^ɔ	◁•ɔŋ ^ɔ
ish kwaa -	after	Δ ^ʰ b•	Δ ^ɔ •b

Punctuation

. (period)	•
!	!
, (comma)	,

Indicating Vowel Length (Pointed Syllabics)

To indicate a long vowel in a syllable, you can place a dot over its syllabic. Note that dots are not used with e-syllabics, since there is no contrasting short vowel.

Consonant	Vowels			
	e	ii	oo	aa
	▽	△	▷	◁
b/p	∇	∆	▷	◁
d/t	U	ḡ	ḥ	ḥ
g/k	᠑	᠑̇	᠔	᠔̇
j/ch	ᠠ	ᠠ̇	ᠵ	ᠵ̇
m	ᠮ	ᠮ̇	ᠯ	ᠯ̇
n	ᠨ	ᠨ̇	ᠮ	ᠮ̇
z/s	ᠵ	ᠵ̇	ᠶ	ᠶ̇
zh/sh	ᠵ	ᠵ̇	ᠶ	ᠶ̇
y	ᠶ	ᠶ̇	ᠶ	ᠶ̇

Indicating Strong vs. Weak Consonants (Pointed Syllabics)

To indicate a syllable beginning with a strong consonant (p, t, k, s, sh), you can place the symbol for 'h' (or glottal stop) before it, as in the following:

Roman	Meaning	Western	Eastern
aki	earth, land	ᠠᠰᠢᠯᠠᠰ	ᠠᠰᠢᠯᠠᠰ
asin	stone, rock	ᠠᠰᠢᠨᠠᠰ	ᠠᠰᠢᠨᠠᠰ
aabita	half	ᠠᠰᠢᠨᠠᠰ	ᠠᠰᠢᠨᠠᠰ
emikwaan	spoon	ᠠᠰᠢᠨᠠᠰ	ᠠᠰᠢᠨᠠᠰ