

# H meaning in english

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the eighth letter of the English alphabet, a consonant. any spoken sound represented by the letter H or h, as in hot or behave. something having the shape of an H. a written or printed representation of the letter H...

H, or h, is the eighth letter in the ISO basic Latin alphabet. Its name in English is aitch (pronounced / 'e?t? /, plural aitches ), or regionally haitch / 'he?t? /. The original Semitic letter Heth most likely...

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Though it's a high-value letter in Scrabble and Words with Friends, H is a relatively common letter. Statistically speaking, it is the eighth most commonly used letter in the English language. That's because H is usually paired with other consonants like wh, ch, sh, and gh. H is found in the most common two-letter pair (th) and in the most common three-letter combination (the). (The letter H is typically pronounced aitch.)

Where did the letter come from, though? It can be traced back to Northern Semitic languages and today is the English corollary to the Hebrew letter heth, which is pronounced as it is spelled. (Some letters like u and j are relatively new to written language. Who is responsible for the letter J?)

Phoenician and proto-Semitic languages are the earliest recorded alphabets that use symbols to represent sounds rather than to represent things like Egyptian hieroglyphics. (Greek is considered the first true alphabet because it uses symbols to represent both consonant and vowel sounds). In proto-Semitic, the letter H was also the word for thread or fence, and if you look at the letter H, it is still clear that it looks like a portion of a fence.

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