

## Spelling list: Short a words

The short /a/ sound is pronounced like the *a* in *cat* or *hat* . This sound can be found in many common words, making it a key building block for reading and spelling. Recognising and practising short *a* words helps improve your vocabulary and enhances your understanding of how words are formed.

Some examples of short *a* words include *bat* , *man* , *pan* , and *sad* . Each of these words features the short /a/ sound at its core. When you say these words, pay attention to how your mouth moves. Notice how your mouth opens slightly, creating that distinctive short /a/ sound. You can practise saying these words out loud, focusing on enunciating the *a* clearly.

Learning short *a* words is important because they appear frequently in both spoken and written English. By becoming familiar with this sound, you'll be more confident as a reader and writer.

absent	William was <b>absent</b> during class today.
active	He was <b>active</b> in the field of science.
actor	The <b>actor</b> got his cue to go on stage.
album	The band released their latest <b>album</b> to much praise.
animal	I heard the roar of a wild <b>animal</b> .
atlas	When I drive I occasionally use an <b>atlas</b> .
bandit	He was the most infamous <b>bandit</b> in the county.
camel	We rode to the pyramids by <b>camel</b> .
dagger	The pirate pulled a <b>dagger</b> from his belt.
factory	A consignment of goods was sent from the <b>factory</b> .
hammer	The sculptor worked with a <b>hammer</b> and a chisel.
ladder	A broken <b>ladder</b> caused the accident.
magnify	If the print is too small you can <b>magnify</b> it.
panic	There was <b>panic</b> when the ship started to sink.
rabbit	Would your <b>rabbit</b> like a carrot?

saddle                      There was a **saddle** on the horse.

January                     It is colder in **January** than June.