

II. Letters of the Cebuano-Visayan Alphabet and Their Corresponding Sounds

A	a (as in <u>ma</u> ma, somewhat like the /a/ in far)
B	ba
K	ka
D	da
E	i (as in basket <u>e</u>)/ e (as in se <u>d</u> a)
G	ga
H	ha
I	i
L	la
M	ma
N	na
NG	nga
O	o (as in <u>o</u> sper)/ u (as in tu <u>h</u> od)
P	pa
R	ra
S	sa
T	ta

U	u
W	wa
Y	ya

The glottal stop, which is the sound formed by momentary stopping of the air passage in the glottis, is represented finally by an apostrophe /' / and medially, occurring between a consonant and a vowel or vice-versa, by a hyphen /-/. Initially and intervocalically, i.e., between two vowels, it is not represented.

e.g. báta'	child
bát-ang	buttocks
áyo	fix
maáyo	good

III. Other Conventions Used

VAR: represents the dialectal variant of an entry.

e.g. BÚLAN N (VAR: búwan)

A hyphen before an affix signifies a suffix, i.e., one that is attached to the end of a root/stem.

e.g. /-a/ + dakó' > dakóá

A hyphen after an affix signifies a prefix, i.e. one that is attached to the beginning of a root/stem.

e.g. /mu-/ + lakáw > mulakáw

A hyphen before and after an affix signifies an infix, i.e., one that is inserted into a root/stem.

e.g. /-in-/ + tahí' > tinahí'

A discontinuous affix is represented by a hyphen after the first part of the affix followed by three dots, then, followed again by a hyphen before the second part of the affix.

e.g. /pa-...-on/ + káon > pakaónon

Two slant lines enclose an affix.

e.g. /mu-/

A colon separates the actor focus affixes from the affixes of all the other focuses.

e.g. /mu-, maN-:-on, i-/

A comma represents a series of similar meanings of an entry; a semi-colon separates different but closely related meanings of an entry.

e.g. PÁPA N (pa, short form) father, daddy, dad,
pop; The Pope

A comma also represents a series of affixes belonging to a group.

e.g. /mu-, mag-, maka-, maN-, manga-: -on, i-, -an/

Underscoring or underlining is used for the verbal affix and whatever is in focus.

e.g. Manihápon ako.

Parentheses enclose either the variant or the short form of an entry.

e.g. ÁRKILA N (VAR: árkila)
KITÁ PRO (ta, short form)

They are also used to enclose other information necessary for the meaning of an entry or for the translation of a Cebuano sentence.

e.g. PÁNIT N skin (man); rind (fruit)
Manghampak ako. I whip (people).

Brackets enclose irregular forms which are otherwise not easily discernible to the dictionary user. These irregular forms result from a combination of the affix plus the root/stem.

e.g. hurót + /-on/ [hútdon]
bása + /-an/ [basáhan]
/maN-/ + káon [mangáon]
/maN-/ + dakóp [manakóp]
/maN-/ + lakáw [manglákaw]

An accent mark /´/ indicates the primary stress of two-or-more-syllable words.

Although the spelling of borrowed Spanish words has been retained, a few of the most commonly used words have been Cebuanoized in spelling, e.g. tinidor. The choice between i and e, u and o has not been standardized. W and y, however, have been used before vowels, instead of u and i.

e.g. BWÍNGGIT, PYAL