

Dividing a Word Into Syllables

Step One: Place dots under all vowel sounds.

Step Two: Count the consonants between the vowels.

Step Three: Apply syllable rule number one or two.

Syllable Rule One - When two vowel sounds are separated by one consonant, syllable division is before the consonant.

 1 (Syllable Rule Number)
 |
 si | lent
 • •
 2 | 1 (Syllable Pattern Numbers)

Syllable Rule Two - When two vowel sounds are separated by two or more consonants, the syllable is usually divided between the first and second of those consonant letters.

 2 (Syllable Rule Number)
 |
 trom | bone
 • •
 1 | 3 (Syllable Pattern Numbers)

Consonant blends count as one letter when determining where to divide a word into syllables. Draw half-circles under the blended letters to prevent their separation.

 1
 |
 re | spect
 • •
 2 | ~ 1