

# Theoretical phonetics

---

Comparison of the sounds /b/ , /p/ and / ʌ /

# Characteristics

- /b/ - is a plosive, bilabial, voiced consonant . It has the same articulation as /p/ but with voice and without aspiration and with less power.
- /p/ - is a plosive, bilabial, voiceless consonant. Lips position depends on the next sound. Position can be spread, neutral, and rounded.
- /ʌ/ - is a short, tense, mid central, unrounded, lax vowel. In pronunciation your tongue has the same position as when you keep silence. The back part of tongue rises to a front part of soft palate.

/b/

**Nasal plosion** : ['kæbmən] , ['ebnɪ],  
[æb'nɔ:m(ə)l], [əb'nɔ:kʃəs]

**Lateral plosion** : ['leɪbl], [bleɪm], [blɛə], ['keɪbl]

**Fricative plosion** : ['æbs(ə)ns], [əb'zɔ:b],  
[əb'steɪn], [əb'zɜ:v]

**Loss of plosion** : [stepbæk], [keɪpbi:tʃ] [dəupbu:k]

**Labialization** : [bu:k], ['bɔ:rɪŋ], [bu:t], [bɔ:ks]

**Slightly palatalized** : [bɪt], [bi:st], [bɪ'gɪn], [bɪ:f]

/p/

**Nasal plosion** : [æp'ni:ə], [keɪp meɪ],  
['step.mʌðə], [ki:p mʌnɪ]

**Lateral plosion** : ['kʌpl], [pleɪt], [.ri:'pleɪ],  
['plenti]

**Fricative plosion** : [lɪps], [straɪps], ['lipstɪk], [lu:p  
speɪs]

**Loss of plosion** : [step bæk], [keɪp bi:tʃ] [dəup  
bu:k]

**Labialization** : [spɔ:t], [spu:n], ['pɔrɪdʒ], [ri'pɔ:t]

**Slightly palatalized** : [spɪt], [pɪʃ], ['skɔ:pɪən], [pi:l]

/ʌ/

## Before voiced consonants:

/fʌn/

/tʃʌm/

/skʌm/

/stʌn/

/gʌn/

/rʌm/

## Before voiceless consonants:

/rʌk/

/stʌk/