

# administration

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## Syllabication Rules

Syllabication rules—or the easy way to read big words.

**Syllables** are single speech parts made up of **one vowel sound** with or without more closely combined consonant sounds.

Every time you speak a syllable, your mouth opens and closes—your jaw drops once.

Every time you speak a syllable, your speech has a single beat—one clap.

Every syllable has one and **only one vowel sound**.

Never divide two vowels next to each other if they carry one sound.

**Example** - bread

Divide two vowels next to each other when each carries a different sound.

**Example** - video

A single consonant between two vowels goes with the second vowel if the first vowel is long (vc/v).

**Example** - belong

A single consonant between two vowels goes with the first vowel if the first vowel is accented and short (vc/v).

**Example** - guitar

Two or more consonants between vowels--

- Go with the second vowel if the first vowel is long.

**Example** - between

- Are divided if the first vowel is not long- -

The first consonant stays with the first vowel and the other consonants go with the second vowel (vc/cv)

**Example** - purpose

Unless the consonants form a blend in which case they are not divided (v cc/v)

**Example** - without

Two identical consonants are divided when they occur between vowels.

**Example** - rabbit

Compound words are divided into the simple words that form them.

**Example** - notebook

Prefixes and suffixes usually form separate syllables.

**Examples** - unkind kindly