

**Arabic Letter Finder**  
 Arranged by Frank W. Hardy  
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Num	Letter Forms				Comments	
1	ا				Single stroke, like a 1.	Visual
2	ب	ت	ث		These letters have 2 points. Here we're counting.	Numeric
3	ج	ح	خ		These letters have 3 points. Again, we're counting.	
4	د	ذ			Rotate 180°, add a vertical stroke and some imagination. Looks like 4.	Visual
5	ر	ز			Add a horizontal stroke just above the top and some imagination. Looks like 5.	
6	س	ش			No visual connection. Here the connection is what the letter sounds like, i.e., the first sound in our number 6. (This only works for the first letter in the group, but that's enough to help you remember and that's the goal here.)	Auditory
7	ص	ض			Rotate 90° clockwise and add some imagination. Looks almost like 7.	Visual
8	ط	ظ			Rotate 45° clockwise, add a connecting stroke across the top and some imagination. The two resulting loops look like 8.	
9	ع	غ			Close the gap at the top. Looks like 9.	
10	ف	ق			Vertical stroke on the left, loop on the right. Looks like 10.	
Other	ك	ل	م	ن	Vertical stroke on the left, vertical stroke on the right. Looks like 11. This works for the first two characters, but basically the mnemonic here is that "k, l, m, n" follows English alphabetical order.	English
	ه	و	ى	ي	Just learn them.	N/A

Other comments:

The Arabic alphabet is a sophisticated writing system that actually consists of as many as four alphabets. A number of characters have separate forms for initial, medial, and final position within a word, and a separate form for cases where the letter appears by itself. (That's the form shown in the table above.)

The utility of a chart like this one is to simplify the task of looking things up in a dictionary. Yes, there is more to learn. No, this is not the whole story. But if the question is which letters come before which others, the chart can be useful. At least it's been useful to me.