

## A Brief Guide to Filipino Pronunciation

**VOWELS:** There are only five vowel sounds in the Filipino language:

**A** - like the **U** in *up* or *cut*

**E** - like *end* or *bed*

**I** - like *machine* and *marine*

**O** - like *old* or *sold*

**U** - like *rude* or the **OO** in *moon*

**CONSONANTS:** Filipino consonants have only one sound each.

**B, D, H, K, L, M, N, P, R, W** are sounded as in the English language.

**G** is always pronounced hard as in *good* (never soft as in *general*)

**S** never takes on a **Z** sound

**T** has a lighter or gentler dental explosion

**NG** is a single letter. Here is a simple way to learn the sound: First, repeat the words: *sing-along, sing-along, sing-along, sing-along*. Then remove the last syllable, "long" and repeat several times: *singa, singa, singa, singa*. Finally remove the "s" and repeat several times: *nga, nga, nga, nga*

**Ng** at the end of the syllable is pronounced like the end of English words, *ring* or *sung*.

**C, F, J, Q, V, X** and **Z** are for foreign words and they follow the rules of a given word's origin.

