Your Name in Hawaiian

There are only 12 letters in the Hawaiian alphabet: A, E, H, I, K, L, M, N, O, P, U, and W.

There are some pronunciation tips for consonants:

Pronounce P and K as in English but with less aspiration.

Pronounce H, L, M, and N as in English.

W after I and E is usually pronounced like V, but after U and O it is usually pronounced like W. Initially, after an A, it can be pronounced like V or W.

Each of the five vowels is generally uniform with some exceptions:

Pronounce A like A in far and also like UH in much.

Pronounce E like AY in bay and also like EH in bet.

Pronounce I like Y in *city* and also like E in *Eve*.

Pronounce O like O in *no*.

Pronounce U like OO in *moon* and also like U in *true*.

There are two ways to determine the Hawaiian equivalent of your name. The first is to determine the meaning of your name and then look up the Hawaiian word for that meaning. The second, is through the process of transliteration. This is the process where you replace the letters in the English name with Hawaiian letters. There is a formula to do this.

- 1. Replace B, F, and P with P.
- 2. Replace C, D, G, J, K, Q, S, T, X, and Z with K.
- 3. Replace H with H.
- 4. Replace N with N.
- 5. Replace L and R with L.
- 6. Replace V and W with W.
- 7. Replace Y with I.
- 8. Vowels remain the same.
- 9. Remember to separate all consonants with a vowel.