Counting Syllables Chart

How do we count the syllables in a word?

Words can be divided into parts and these parts are called, "syllables". The number of syllables in a word depends on its number of vowel sounds (not the number of vowels in the word).

For example, the word "cave" has 1 vowel sound (1 syllable). The word, "exhale" (ex-hale) has 2 vowel sounds (2 syllables).

There are different methods you can use to count syllables, including the chin method and the clap method.

Let's start with the chin method. Rest your hand under your chin and say or mouth a word slowly. Try to say or mouth the word "winter". How many times does your chin drop onto your hand?

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Next up, let's try the clap method. For the clap method, try to clap your hands together each time you notice a vowel sound. For example, win-ter has two vowel sounds. Two vowel sounds, two syllables, two claps.