

## How to Pronounce the "n" /n/ and "ng" /ŋ/ Consonant Sounds

## The "n" /n/ sound

The "n" sound is made when the front and sides of the tongue come up to the roof of the mouth and touch behind the front teeth and along the inside rim of the teeth. The tongue is fully inside the mouth - don't let the tongue tip come out past the teeth. The "n" sound should feel more forward than the "ng" sound, since the "n" is made closer to the front of the mouth.



## The "ng" /ŋ/ sound

The "ng" sound is made at the back of the mouth when the back part of the tongue comes up and touches the soft palate (the soft, squishy part at the very back of the roof of your mouth). The tip of the tongue remains down and forward, and it may rest behind the bottom front teeth. The mouth is open, and the jaw drops down. This sound should feel like it is made farther back in the mouth compared to the "n".





The movement of the soft palate and back of the tongue during the "ng" sound

If you are still having difficulty producing the "ng" sound, try this tip: Use a mirror, and watch your tongue and soft palate as you say the vowel "ah" /a/. You should see the soft palate rise up in the mouth. Then alternate between "ah" and "ng" - you should see the soft palate and the tongue move apart for the "ah" and then come together for the "ng". "Ah - ng - ah - ng - ah - ng".

Thanks for reading! Contact me at <a href="mailto:juliecunninghamslp@gmail.com">juliecunninghamslp@gmail.com</a> for additional help!