

# BILLY ELLIOT

## THE MUSICAL



## ACCENT SUPPORT

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=phIR36Tmcrg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OC1jbnBB6nc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sumStCchdn8>

### Learn the Sound Differences.

Before getting on to new words, learn how to say the ones you already know with a Geordie accent. Here are some of the more common Geordie mannerisms. (To understand these sounds represented by the symbols used below, you may need to consult the International Phonetic Alphabet.

At <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ipa>.)

### Vowels

- A final *-er* becomes /a/, so *brother* sounds like *brotha*.
- /æ/ sounds often become /ɛ/, so *sat* sounds like *set*.
- /o:/ in words like *walk* becomes /a:/ or /æ:/.

Note that the pronunciation of *walk* with the /o:/ sound is the British pronunciation, not the American one, which has the /a:/ sound.

- /ə:/ in words like *work* becomes /o:/, so that *work* and *port* have the same vowel sound.
- /æu/ in words like *crown* and /ou/ in words like "know" become /u:/, so *crown* sounds like *croon* and *know* sounds like *new*.
- /ɛ/ often becomes /i/, especially in words spelled with *ea* like *head*. Thus *head* sounds like *heed*.
- Final *-ing* is pronounced /ən/, so *talking* sounds like *talken*.





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### Consonants

- The /t/ (that is pronounced more commonly in American dialects) in words like "notice" is realised as a glottal stop. This means that instead of pronouncing the /t/ sound, you make a hard pause between the two vowel sounds.
- Final *r* is dropped following a vowel sound. This is typical of British dialects.
- Vowels are sometimes added between successive consonants, usually when the consonants are at the end of the word.
- Many consonant clusters become altered in both stressed and unstressed syllables. So, for example, *dew* sounds like *Jew*. This is called *Yod-coalescence*, and affects the clusters [dj], [tj], [sj] and [zj], turning them into [dʒ], [tʃ], [ʃ] and [ʒ].
- These are just a few of the numerous sound differences between Geordie and other dialects.

### Learn the Vernacular

This is where you start building up your Geordie vocabulary. Go back to step one and start listening – being more accustomed to the accent, you'll start to notice the slang. It's best to pick up the words as you hear them – that way you can naturally acquire the common words. Geordie has a large vocabulary of unique words; many of these are formed just by sound changes, but some are entirely unfamiliar. A few of these are:

- a-one for "one"
- aught for "anything"
- aye for "yes"
- bairn for "child"
- champion for "great"
- gan for "go"
- loaning for "lane"
- mebbies for "maybe"
- somewhat for "something"
- tae for "to"

