The rights of the letters

Tajweed means giving each letter its correct articulation, sound, and timing. This sheet covers the rules a beginner meets first. Learn them by ear with a teacher; the page is a reminder, not a substitute.

1. Articulation points (makharij)

The letters are produced from five broad areas: the throat ( ), the tongue (most letters), the lips ( ), the nose (ghunnah), and the mouth cavity (the elongations).

2. Elongation (madd)

Type	Counts	Example context
Natural (tabi'i)	2	Any long vowel not followed by hamzah or sukun
Connected (muttasil)	4-5	Long vowel followed by hamzah in the same word
Separated (munfasil)	2-5	Long vowel at word end, hamzah at next word start
Necessary (lazim)	6	Long vowel followed by a permanent sukun

3. Nun and mim rules

Ghunnah: a nasal sound on and , held for two counts.

Izhar: pronounce nun clearly before throat letters.

Idgham: merge nun into or with nasalisation into .

Iqlab: turn nun into mim before , with ghunnah.

Ikhfa': conceal nun before fifteen letters, with ghunnah.

4. Qalqalah

A slight echo on when they carry sukun, or at the end of a verse. Keep it light: an echo, not an added vowel.

5. Common beginner mistakes

Rushing: shortening madd or skipping ghunnah.

Over-emphasising qalqalah until it sounds like a vowel.

Mixing and , or and .

Ignoring the hamzat al-wasl at the start of a word.

A three-minute daily routine

Choose two lines. Listen once, repeat with the reciter, then recite alone. Mark one letter that gave you trouble and return to it tomorrow.