

Contracted forms in English

The standard written contracted forms are, loosely, phonemic in nature so:

Full form	Contracted	Transcription	Full form	Contracted	Transcription	Full form	*Contracted	Transcription	Full form	Contracted	Transcription
<i>I am</i>	<i>I'm</i>	/aɪm/	<i>I have</i>	<i>I've</i>	/aɪv/	<i>I had</i>	<i>I'd</i>	/aɪd/	<i>let us</i>	<i>let's</i>	/lets/
<i>you are</i>	<i>you're</i>	/jə(r)/	<i>you have</i>	<i>you've</i>	/ju:v/	<i>you had</i>	<i>you'd</i>	/ju:d/	<i>not</i>	† <i>n't</i>	/nt/
<i>he is</i>	<i>he's</i>	/hi:z/	<i>he has</i>	<i>he's</i>	/hi:z/	<i>he had</i>	<i>he'd</i>	/hi:d/	<i>will / shall</i>	‡ <i>ll</i>	/l/
<i>she is</i>	<i>she's</i>	/ʃi:z/	<i>she has</i>	<i>she's</i>	/ʃi:z/	<i>she had</i>	<i>she'd</i>	/ʃi:d/	<i>do you</i>	‡ <i>d'</i>	/də/
<i>it is</i>	<i>it's</i>	/ɪts/	<i>it has</i>	<i>it's</i>	/ɪts/	<i>it had</i>	<i>it'd</i>	/ɪ.təd/	<i>does</i>	§ <i>s</i>	/s/
<i>we are</i>	<i>we're</i>	/wɪə(r)/	<i>we have</i>	<i>we've</i>	/wi:v/	<i>we had</i>	<i>we'd</i>	/wi:d/	<i>about</i>	‡ <i>'bout</i>	/baʊt/
<i>they are</i>	<i>they're</i>	/ðeə(r)/	<i>they have</i>	<i>they've</i>	/ðeɪv/	<i>they had</i>	<i>they'd</i>	/ðeɪd/	<i>of the</i>	<i>o'</i>	/ə/

*The contractions in this column also apply to *would* and *should* (for the first-person putative use only). When *should* is used as a modal auxiliary verb it is usually not contracted.

†The contracted form of *will not* is *won't*, transcribed as /wəʊnt/ rather than /wɪl.nt/, and the contracted form of *don't* is transcribed as /dəʊnt/ rather than /du:nt/.

‡The contracted form of *do* occurs in informal speech, as in *d'you* transcribed as /dju/, and is not usually written.

§The contracted form of *does* is pronounced as /s/ not /z/ and occurs in, e.g., *What's he do?*

There is an alternative disyllabic pronunciation of *we've* and *they've* pronounced as /wi:.əv/ and /ðeɪ.əv/, respectively.

The contraction in *let's* is the only example of a contraction of *us* and the contraction of *of the* only occurs in *o'clock* and some surnames.

The contraction of *about* to *'bout* is confined to speech and paralleled by the contraction of *because* to *'cos* (transcribed as /kəz/ or /kɒz/). Neither is commonly written except in the most informal texts.

There is an informal contraction, *ain't*, transcribed as /eɪnt/, for *am not*, *are not* and *is not*.