

So, what's with all of these odd words people use when talking about letters? It's important to be understood, whether you are in the military, law enforcement, or even ordering parts for your sailboat. To that end, the military developed a phonetic alphabet so that each letter's associated word would sound distinct. If you think about having a phone (or radio) conversation, it's really easy to confuse "bee" with "see" or "dee". So, to make yourself more easily understood, here is the standard phonetic alphabet.

A: alpha  
B: bravo  
C: charlie  
D: delta  
E: echo  
F: foxtrot  
G: golf  
H: hotel  
I: india  
J: juliet  
K: kilo  
L: lima  
M: mike

N: november  
O: oscar  
P: papa  
Q: quebec  
R: romeo  
S: sierra  
T: tango  
U: uniform  
V: victor  
W: whiskey  
X: x-ray  
Y: yankee  
Z: zulu