

The Rules of Mad (Hukum Mad)

What is Mad?

Mad means TO ADD or ELONGATE. Its function is to lengthen the voice when encountering a Letter of Mad (Huruf Mad) or a Letter of Lin (Huruf Lin).

Letters of Mad (Huruf Mad):

There are THREE letters of mad in total: Alif (ا), Waw (و), and Ya (ي), with the following CONDITIONS:

- Alif: Preceded by a letter with a Fathah (top vowel mark).
- Waw: Preceded by a letter with a Dammah (front vowel mark).
- Ya: Preceded by a letter with a Kasrah (bottom vowel mark).

Letters of Lin (Huruf Lin):

There are TWO letters of lin: Waw (و) and Ya (ي), with the following CONDITIONS:

1. Waw: Preceded by a letter with a Fathah.
2. Ya: Preceded by a letter with a Fathah.

What is Harakat?

The way to recite mad depends on the designated rate of harakat, ranging from 2 to 6 harakat. 1 harakat is categorized as a short recitation (not elongated). Meanwhile, an elongated recitation starts from 2 up to 6 harakat.

The method to count harakat is by clenching the fingers and releasing them. If it is 2 harakat, clench 2 fingers and release them. However, the speed of clenching and releasing must follow the recitation speed.

Recitation Speed Rates:

There are 3 types of recitation speeds:

- Tahqiq (Slow): Very meticulous in perfecting the recitation by fulfilling the exact rights of the letters. Example: The standard recitation of a professional Qari / Qariah.
- Tadwir (Medium): Faster than tahqiq. An intermediate reading pace between tahqiq and hadr, without neglecting any tajweed rules.
- Hadr (Fast): Quick recitation without neglecting the tajweed. Example: The recitation of a Quran memorizer when revising repeatedly.

Note: If you read at the tadwir pace, your finger movements must match that speed. Thus, the actual duration of your mad will be slightly shorter compared to someone reading at the slower tahqiq pace.

Types of Mad:

Mad is divided into TWO main categories:

1. Mad Asli (Natural Mad)

- Mad that is NOT CAUSED by a hamzah or sukun.
- The harakat length is exactly 2.
- Asli means Original, and Thobi'i means Natural.

2. Mad Far'i (Derived Mad)

- Additional elongation that is CAUSED by a hamzah or sukun.
- The harakat length is more than 2, ranging up to 6.
- Mad Far'i is divided into 13 sub-types.
- Far'i means Additional or Branch.

MAD ASLI

Also known as Mad Thobi'i.

Reason for Occurrence: It involves the 3 Mad letters: Alif (ا), Waw (و), and Ya (ي). It occurs naturally solely because of these 3 letters WITHOUT being caused by a hamzah or sukun.

Identifying Signs:

3. 1. Mad letters with NO vowel marks:

- - Alif preceded by a fathah.
- - Waw preceded by a dammah.
- - Ya preceded by a kasrah.

4. 2. The small mad letter signs (small Alif, Waw, and Ya in the script).

Harakat: Read with 2 harakat.

Oval/Zero Signs in the Quran:

In the Quran, there are two types of oval/zero signs: Slanted Zero (Sifr Mustadir) and Upright/Oval Zero (Sifr Mustatil).

- Slanted Zero: It only exists in writing but NOT in pronunciation. It is merely an additional letter.
- Upright/Oval Zero: Found in only SIX words in the Quran. It is categorized as mad asli and read with 2 harakat ONLY WHEN STOPPING (Waqaf). During continuous reading (Wasal), the elongation is ignored.

MAD FAR'I (Derived Mad Types)

1. Mad Wajib Muttasil

Reason for Occurrence: Occurs when a letter of mad meets a hamzah in ONE word.

Meaning: Wajib = Mandatory, Muttasil = Connected/Joined.

Identifying Signs: A long wave sign (~) followed by a hamzah in ONE word, where the hamzah is not placed above or below an alif.

Harakat: 4 or 5 harakat during continuous reading (Wasal); 6 harakat when stopping (Waqaf).

2. Mad Jaiz Munfasil

Reason for Occurrence: Occurs when a letter of mad meets a hamzah in TWO separate words.

Meaning: Jaiz = Permissible, Munfasil = Separated.

Identifying Signs: A long wave sign (~) followed by a hamzah in TWO words, where the hamzah is usually positioned over or under an alif at the start of the next word.

Harakat: 4 or 5 harakat during Wasal. When stopping on the first word, it reverts to 2 harakat (Mad Asli).

3. Mad Silah Qosiroh (Sughra)

Reason for Occurrence: Occurs only during continuous reading (Wasal). It involves the pronoun "Ha" (Ha dhamir - third-person singular male) positioned between two vowelled letters, with NO hamzah following it.

Meaning: Silah = Connection, Qosiroh/Sughra = Short/Small.

Identifying Signs: A small waw after a ha with a dammah, or a small ya after a ha with a kasrah.

Harakat: 2 harakat during Wasal. When stopping (Waqaf), it is not elongated (read as a sukun).

4. Mad Silah Towilah (Kubra)

Reason for Occurrence: Occurs only during continuous reading (Wasal). Involves the pronoun "Ha" located between two vowelled letters, WITH a hamzah following it.

Meaning: Towilah/Kubra = Long/Big.

Identifying Signs: A small waw or ya accompanied by a long wave sign (~), followed by a hamzah.

Harakat: 4 or 5 harakat during Wasal.

5. Mad Aridh Lissukun

Reason for Occurrence: Occurs due to a temporary sukun that is introduced when stopping (waqaf) on a word.

Meaning: Aridh = Temporary/Incidental, Lissukun = Due to Sukun.

Identifying Signs: A letter of mad at the end of the word where the reader intends to stop.

Harakat: 2, 4, or 6 harakat during waqaf. (During wasal, it reverts to 2 harakat like Mad Asli).

6. Mad Lin

Reason for Occurrence: Occurs when stopping (waqaf) on a word, and the final letter is made sukun, preceded by a Letter of Lin (Waw or Ya preceded by a Fathah).

Meaning: Lin = Soft.

Harakat: 2, 4, or 6 harakat ONLY during Waqaf. During Wasal, there is no elongation.

7. Mad Badal

Reason for Occurrence: Occurs when a hamzah precedes a letter of mad in ONE word. Originally, there are two hamzahs, and the second one (which has a sukun) is changed into a mad letter matching the vowel of the first hamzah.

Meaning: Badal = Exchange/Substitute.

Harakat: 2 harakat.

8. Mad Farq (Farqi)

Reason for Occurrence: Serves to distinguish an interrogative hamzah ("Is it?") from a regular statement. There are only 3 such words in the Quran.

Meaning: Farq = To Distinguish.

Identifying Signs: Interrogative hamzah at the beginning of a word, followed by a mad letter with a long wave sign.

Harakat: 6 harakat.

9. Mad Lazim Harfi

Reason for Occurrence: Occurs when a Mad Asli letter meets a genuine sukun in the Muqatta'at letters (disconnected letters at the beginning of certain Surahs).

Meaning: Lazim = Compulsory (must be 6 harakat), Harfi = Letter, Mukhaffaf = Light (without idgham), Musaqqal = Heavy (with idgham).

Categories for Disconnected Letters:

- No Mad: Letter Alif (ا).
- Mad Asli (2 harakat): 5 letters, remembered by the phrase "Haya Thoharo" (ح, ط, ي, هـ, ر).
- Mad Lazim (6 harakat): 8 letters, remembered by the phrase "Naqoso 'Asalukum" (ن, م, ك, ل, س, ع, ص, ق).

Note: The letter 'Ayn (ع) can be read 4 or 6 harakat based on Tariq As-Shatibi.