

# The OW Diphthong /au/

*How now brown cow?*

A diphthong is a vowel sound that is made up of two vowel sounds blended together to make a new sound. The /au/ sound is made by putting the short a /æ/ and the long OO /u/ sounds together. So, you open your mouth to say /æ/, and then quickly close it and round your lips to say /u/. It is the sound many Americans make when they get hurt: "Ow"

## Practice Words

- |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. about    | 16. mouth    |
| 2. amount   | 17. mountain |
| 3. around   | 18. now      |
| 4. bounce   | 19. noun     |
| 5. cow      | 20. outside  |
| 6. count    | 21. pound    |
| 7. compound | 22. powder   |
| 8. doubt    | 23. round    |
| 9. down     | 24. sound    |
| 10. found   | 25. south    |
| 11. ground  | 26. tower    |
| 12. how     | 27. town     |
| 13. house   | 28. towel    |
| 14. clown   | 29. vowel    |
| 15. loud    | 30. wow      |

## Practice Sentences

1. The book is about a **clown** in a **tower**.
2. Don't **bounce** that baby **around** so much!
3. I **doubt** he understands **about compound** interest.
4. We **found** the **cow down** in the valley.
5. That **clown** has a **loud mouth**!
6. Her **house** is on the **south** side of the **mountain**.
7. He **pounded** the rock into **powder**.

8. **Wow** That **noun** has a lot of **vowels**.
9. She threw the **towel** from the top of the **round tower**.
10. The gun **powder** made a **loud sound**.
11. A large **amount** of rain fell **outside**.
12. How can you **count** them so fast?

### Tongue Twisters

- How much ground would a groundhog hog,  
if a groundhog could hog ground?  
A groundhog would hog all the ground he could hog,  
if a groundhog could hog ground
- There once was a woman from St. Cloud  
Who loved to sing her songs aloud  
When the fiddler in a tower  
Played along while in the shower  
They soon drew quite a large crowd.