CONSONANT BLEND SOUNDS

Some consonants can simply be said together. Combinations that make new and different sounds are illustrated.

The dash shows if these blends begin (bl-) or end (-ck) a syllable, or do both (-ch-).

The usual letters that make this sound:  Exceptions- words with other letters that make this sound:  How this sound is made: (Click on drawing to hear.)

bl-  blue
br-  brand
-ch-  check
lunch
kitchen

ck  /cɛllo
   /frɪghtəʊs
ch  uestion
   nature, picture (pik-chur)
   (see k)
   note: same as j, but unvoiced-

cl- (really kl sound)  roads, ads
clap

cr- (really kr sound)  cross

-ct (really kt sound)  act, neglect
dr-  dress
dw-  dwell
-dz

fl-  flag
fr-  frog
-ft  lift, left

gl-  glad
gr-  gram
-gw- (not spelled)  penguin

hw-  wheat, white, why

-ll  in le have no e sound, just l: table (ta-b′l),
-l
Words ending in -le have no e sound, just l: table (ta-b'l),
uncle (un-k'l), handle (han-d'l), rifle (ri-f'l), bugle (bu-g'l),
tickle (tic-k'le), simple (sim-p'l), puzzle (puz-z'l).

-ld
hold

-lik
milk

kl- (not spelled)  clap
kr- (not spelled)  cross
Christmas, chronology

-ks-
*tax, text, exit, box, tuxedo, etc.
facsimile, exciting
eccentric, fiction, action (ak-shun)
*tacks, packs, pecks, picks, pocks, pucks

-kt (not spelled)  packed, pact
-kw- (not spelled)  quarter, quit, etc.
acquire
choir

-kz- (not spelled)  taxes, mixes, boxes, /oxen, luxury

-mp
jump

-nch
lunch

-nd  penned (pen'd)
and

-ng
sing, sang, sung, song, strength
-ng'd (not spelled)  belonged, etc.
-ng-g (not spelled)  finger, (fing-ger) anger (ang-ger) hunger
younger
-ngz (not spelled)  sings

-nk
sink, sank, sunk, honk

-nt
rent

-pl-
plan

-pr-
prime

-pt
adopt

-rb

CONSONANT BLENDS 2.
-rb
curb
-rch
curch
-rd
card
-rf
scarf
-rj (not spelled) large, etc.
-rk
pork
-rl
curl
-rm
arm
-rn
earn
-rp
sharp
-rs
nurse
-rt
dirt
-rth
earth
-rz (not spelled) furs
-rv
curve
-rch
march
-rsh
marshmallow
-sk- (and sc- followed by a, o, u)
scan, scout, scum school, schedule
risk, skate, ski scheme, schizophrenic
-sh-
special, /ancient, musician
ship sugar, sure, /censure
wish machine, Chicago, chef, chic
worship nation, partial, patient
tension (ten-shun), ocean (o-shun)
/fascism, conscious
mission, tissue
note: san

shl-(not spelled) /ʃ/ k

CONSONANT BLENDS 3.
shl- (not spelled) /schlep, schlock
shm- (not spelled) /schmooze, schmaltz, schmuck
shn- (not spelled) /Schnauzer, schnapps
shr- shrug
skl- (not spelled) /sclerosis
-skr- (not spelled) describe, scratch
-sks desks
skw- (not spelled) squirrel
sl- slip
sm- small
sn- snap
-sp- spill, crisp
spl- splash
spr- spring
-sps wasps
-st- stack, first
str- string
-sts tests
sw- swim
-tch *which, much, rich, such
-witch, pitcher(pit-chur)
-th- thigh, with, withhold
-th- the, this, that
father, these, those
there

Note: this th sound is unvoiced

Note: this th sound is voiced

CONSONANT BLENDS 4.
thd (not spelled)  bathed
thr-
three
-ths
tenths
tr-
trip
-ts
sits, /tsunami, tsar
-tw-
twins, between
wh- (see hw for explanation and picture)
wheel, why

San Juan, marijuana

zh (not spelled)  measure, /pleasure, leisure
vision
/azure
/genre
/fission

note: same as sh, but voiced

View of the tongue and teeth from the top; tongue is lower in the center and the air is pushed through this 'valley.'