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.)

CONSONANT SOUNDS:

b
bed
rubber
/cupboard, raspberry
note: same as p, but voiced

c has no sound of its own! Followed by a, o, or u, it has the sound of k: cat, cot, cut. Followed by e, i or y, it has the s sound: cent, city, cyst. The blends cl, cr and ct have the k sound. Ch has a new sound.

d
duck
ladder
would, could, should
-To add ed to words that end in voiced consonants (except d)
the sound of ed is just d: smell'd, etc.
(You say banned just like band!)
With words that end in d, double the d, and say two syllables:
pad-ded, load-ded, etc.

note: same as t, but voiced

f
fish
offer
half, calf, etc.
nephew, phone, etc.
laugh, cough, enough
rough, tough, /through

note: same:
lower teeth touch upper lip

h

The sound exceptions:
g sound exceptions:
gear, get, geese, finger, anger
girl, give, begin, giggle,
/giddy, gimmick

other exceptions: /ghost

note: same as k, but voiced

CONSONANTS 1.
h

house

who, whole
/San Jose
/Chanukah
/gyro

j

jeep

(see g)
budget, /gem
/ginger, region
/Egypt, /spongy
edge, judge, /advantage, etc.
/exaggerate
/soldier

k

(see c)
key
cat, cot, cut
back
stomach, ache, mechanic,
/orchid, chasm, chaos, chemical
talk, walk
/khaki
/liquor, plaque, antique, tourniquet
/saccharine
traffic, picnic (Add k to endings: trafficker, panicke

note: same as y, but unvoiced

l

lemon

little (lit'l)
bill
pedal (ped'l), final (fin'l)
model (mod'l)

m

money

comb, plumber, /bomb, tomb, womb
/calm, balm
dummy
/rhythm

autumn, /column, hymn
/diaphragm

note: air flow

CONSONANTS 2.

n

nest

owel, etc.
n
nest
banner

t /knee, knife, know, etc.
tonu
sign, gnaw, reign
open (op' n), etc.
cotton (cot'n), etc.
certain (cer-t'n), etc.

note: air goes through the nose

p
pig
supper

/shepherd
/hiccough

note: same as s, but unrounded

q really has no sound of its own! It is always paired with u (qu) and usually has the sound of kw. See kw under blends.

r
rug
merry

/write, wrong, wrist, etc.
/rhythm, rhyme, rhinestone,
rhinoceros
diarrhea
/colonel (kern'l)

note: to other part of the mouth!

s
sun
kiss
dose
loose, goose

(see s)
cent, city, cyst
/psalm
psychology, etc.
scissors, science,
fascinate
listen, whistle, wrestle, etc.

note: sar lips are unrounded, air flows out evenly over the whole top of the tongue

CONSONANTS 3.
t
 telephone
 button
 debt, doubt, /subtle/, etc.
 receipt
 /Thomas, Thailand
 night, right, etc.
 /yacht
 pizza

- To add -ed to words
 ending in *unvoiced* consonants
 (except t) the sound is just t: walk’t.
 (You say tacked just like tact!)
 With a word ending in t, say
 two syllables: pat-ted, lif-ted.

v
 vest
 savvy
 over
 leaves, wolves

of

w
 web
 now
 tower
 one (wun)
 /strenuous
 why, /whale, wheat
 (some AmE speakers say
 all wh sounds as w)
 /persuade, iguana
 /suede

x has no sound of its own. Look under consonant blends for ks and kz.

y (refer back to vowel section

I can have the sound of long e or short i)
y (refer back to vowel section - y as a vowel can have the sound of long e or short i)
yarn
_c_unit (yu-nit), _university, c_ute, etc.
_fe_urope, fe Ud
fe_w
bea_uty
opinjon, onjon
/strenuous/hallelujah
/tortilla
tongue: moves back, away from
teeth
jaw: drops
lips: from "smiling," to more rounded

z
zipper
jazz
puzzle
frozen
scissors
as, clothes, days, lose, was, please,
choose, chose /advise, fuse (and
following all voiced sounds)
exCUSE (verb)
business (biz-ness)
/lanxiety
note: same as s, but voiced

CONSONANTS 5.