

Vocabulary Spelling and Sounds

25 Common English Words with OUGH

OUGH is a **tetragraph** – a four-letter pattern – that occurs in some common English words. The problem is that **OUGH** can be pronounced in many different ways, depending on the word. Check any new words below, then match each word to a column to show how **OUGH** is pronounced:

although
borough
bough
bought
brought

cough
dough
drought
enough
fought

furlough
hiccough
nought
ought
plough

rough
Slough
sought
thorough
though

thought
through
tough
trough
wrought

Sound*:	or	au	eu	uf	of	uh	oo	up
Sounds like:	more	cow	go	cuff	off	[schwa]	do	cup

Note: These 25 words do not include repeats, e.g. 'thought' is in 'thoughtful' and 'dough' is in 'doughnut'. Can you think of any more examples?

*with Clear Alphabet