

Personaj nomoj (*given names*) en Esperanto

How should you write your name in Esperanto?

Names are nouns, so ideally they should end in **-o**. But sometimes **-o** is undesirable, especially for people from cultures that reserve that ending for male names. (Think *Maria* vs. *Mario*.) So it's common to see female names in Esperanto that end in **-a**: **Silvja, Maria, Klara**, etc.

In general, there are four methods for adapting your name to Esperanto. We'll use the English name **John** as an example. We can ...



- A. "Translate" it to an established Esperanto equivalent: **Johano**
- B. Try to represent the pronunciation in Esperanto's spelling system, optionally adding an **-o** or **-a**: **Ĝan** or **Ĝano**
- C. Leave the name unchanged, optionally adding pronunciation hints in brackets for readers from other cultures who might not be familiar with it: **John [ĝan]**
- D. Methods A or B, but with the addition of a suffix reserved for familiar names: **-njo** (female) or **-ĉjo** (male). These suffixes can "consume" a portion of the name, making it shorter and/or easier to pronounce. So from **Johano** (method A) we can get **Joĉjo**.

Methods B and C can produce awkward results if they don't end in **-o** (or at least a vowel). In that case we add **-o** as needed for pronunciation: **Ĝan vidis min, kaj mi vidis Ĝan-on**. And of course method C doesn't work for names written in radically different alphabets: 张伟 **vidis min, kaj mi vidis 张伟-on**.

The method you use is up to you. Some people even take the opportunity to adopt a completely new name, specifically for use in Esperanto—kind of like a secret identity!

Here are some quick suggestions for students in the Spring 2020 class. Don't feel obligated to use these; feel free to adapt them, or to pick something completely different:

- **Ethan**: Ethan [itan], Etano
- **Elange**: Elange [elanĵ], Elanĵa, Elanjo
- **Erika**: Erika, Erinja, Erinjo
- **Kai**: Kai [kaj], Kajo, Kajĉjo
- **Marion**: Marion [merjn], Mariana, Marinjo, Manjo
- **Markus**: [markus] → Markuso, Marko
- **Samuel**: [samjl] → Samuelo, Samo
- **Scott**: [skat] → Skoto, Skoĉjo

To give you an idea of the many options for method A, here's a sampling of names used in Esperanto literature, taken just from European sources. (Including non-European sources as well would require far more paper ...)

Some female names:

(Many can have either -a or -o endings.)

Ada, Adela, Adriana, Agato, Alana, Alberta, Aleksandra, Alico, Amelio, Ana, Anabelo, Andrea, Anita, Anjo, Anĝela, Aprilo, Aria(d)na, Aŭrora, Aŭgusta, Aŭdreo, Barb(a)ra, Beatrico, Belindo, Benita, Berta, Blanka, Brigito, Bronislava, Cecilia, Celestina, Cintio, Ĉarloto, Dafneo, Daniela, Danuta, Debora, Deniza, Diana, Dominika, Dora, Doriso, Doroteo, Edito, Eleonoro, Eliza, Elizabeto, Elvira, Elza, Emilia, Emma, Erika, Estera, Etelo, Eva, Evelina, Fatima, Filiso, Flor(enc)o, Franciska, Freja, Frida, Gabriela, Gaja, Gerda, Gertrudo, Greta, Gvendolino, Ĝenoveva, Ĝojo, Halina, Hana, Hedvigo, Heleno, Heloiza, Henrieto, Hermiono, Hiacinto, Hilda, Ĥimena, Ida, Ilona, Ina, Irena, Irina, Iriso, Iza(bela), Izolda, Jana, Jakelino, Jasmeno, Jocelino, Johana, Jolanda, Judita, Julia, Junio, Karena, Karina, Karla, Karmeno, Katia, Katlino, Katrina, Klara, Kleopatra, Konstancia, Kordelio, Kristina, Larisa, Laŭra, Lea, Leda, Lidia, Liza, Loreta, Lucia, Lucilo, Luiza, Magda, Majo, Manuela, Margareto, Mari(an)a, Marlena, Marta, Matilda, Meja, Melania, Miĥaela, Mika, Mira, Miranda, Mona, Moniko, Nadja, Nana, Naomia, Nastazja, Nataŝa, Nikol(et)a, Nina, Nora, Oksana, Olga, Olivo, Pamela, Paŭl(en/et)a, Penelopeo, Petra, Rafaela, Raĥelo, Raisa, Ramona, Rebeka, Regina, Ren(at)a, Rita, Roksana, Roz(alio), Sabina, Sandra, Sara, Sibilo, Silvana, Sofia, Sonja, Stefano, Suzana, Talia, Tamara, Tamika, Tanja, Tatjana, Teodora, Terezo, Tina, Ulrika, Ursulo, Valerio, Vanesa, Ver(onik)o, Viktoria, Vilma, Viol(et)o, Virginio

Some male names:

A(a)rono, Abrahamo, Adalberto, Adamo, Adriano, Alano, Alberto, Aleks(andr)o, Alfonso, Alfredo, Andreo, Anĝelo, Anton(i)o, Armando, Arnoldo, Arturo, Aŭgusto, Bartolomeo, Bazilo, Benedikto, Benito, Benjamen, Bernardo, Bertilo, Bertrando, Blazio, Boriso, Bruno, Cecilo, Cezaro, Cirilo, Danielo, Dario, Davido, Denizo, Dimitro, Dionizio, Djego, Domiciano, Dominiko, Donald, Duglaso, Edgardo, Edmundo, Eduardo/Edvardo, Edveno, Emanuelo, Emeriko, Emilio, Eriko, Ernesto, Eŭgeno, Fabi(an)o, Fabricio, Felikso, Ferdinando, Filipino, Flavio, Floriano, Francisko, Franko, Frederiko, Gabrielo, Gasparo, Gastono, Georgo, Gerardo, Gedeono, Gilberto, Godfredo, Gonzago, Gregor(i)o, Gustavo, Ĝeraldo, Ĝermano, Ĝilo, Ĝofredo, Haroldo, Hektoro, Henriko, Herberto, Homero, Horacio, Hu(m)berto, Hugo, Ĥiramo, Ignaco, Isa(a)ko, Ivano, Ivo, Jakobo, Jano, Jeremio, Joakimo, Johano, Jonatano, Josuo, Jozefo, Juli(an)o, Justeno, Ĵaspero, Kar(o)lo, Kazimiro, Keneto, Klarenco, Knuto, Konrado, Kornelo, Kristoforo, Ksavero, Ladislao, Laŭr(enc)o, Leo(nardo), Leopoldo, Luciano, Luko, Maks(im)o, Manfredo, Manuelo, Marcelo, Mario, Marko, Marteno, Mateo, Miĥaelo, Natano, Nestoro, Nikolao, Norman(d)o, Olafo, Olivero, Omaro, Oskaro, Osvaldo, Ovidio, Patriko, Paŭlo, Percevalo, Petro, Placido, Rafaelo, Ralfo, Raulo, Rejnaldo, Renardo, Renato, Rikardo, Roberto, Roĝero, Rolando, Rolfo, Romano, Ronaldo, Rudolfo, Salvatore, Samuelo, Sebastiano, Serĝo, Sidneo, Sigfrido, Silvestro, Sim(e)ono, Stanislao, Stefano, Tadeo, Teodoro, Tiberio, Timoteo, Tobio, Tomaso, Tom(i)o, Uliso, Ulriko, Umberto, Vaclavo, Valtero, Viktoro, Vilhelmo, Vincenzo, Virgilo, Vito, Vladimiro, Vojteho, Volfgango, Zahario