

When Old Norse met English

Because of the lack of land in Scandinavia during the 9th and 10th centuries, tens of thousands of people from Norway and Denmark crossed the sea and sailed to the British Isles to settle in England. The language the newcomers spoke, mostly referred to as "Old Norse", had a big influence on the English language. For example many towns in England still have the Nordic word for town, which is the word "by". Places like Thornby, Denaby, Aby, Crosby, Earby, Thornaby, Kirby Cross, were all probably founded by the Vikings. Intermarriage and assimilation between the Viking culture and the Anglo-saxon culture created a big melting pot of the two languages which gave birth to the English language. The words used on a daily basis in English are full of old Norse words. English words such as "sister" come from the word systir in old Norse. The word for "window" comes from vindauga.

Adapted from www.norse-mythology.net

Aa	Бб	Вв	Гг	Гг	Уу	Дд	Зз	Тт	Ии	Йй
A	Be	Ve	Ge	Gje	We	De	Ze	He	I	Je
a	b	v	g/gh	gj/gi	u/v	d	z/ss	h	i	j/i
[a]	[b]	[v]	[g/ɣ]	[j]	[w]	[d]	[s]	[h]	[i]	[j]
Кк	Лл	Јј	Мм	Нн	Оо	Пп	Рр	Сс	Тт	Уу
Ka	El	La	Em	En	O	Pe	Er	Es	Te	U
k/c/kj	l	ll/ɫ	m	n	o	p	r	s/f	t	u
[k/c]	[l]	[n]	[m]	[n]	[o]	[p]	[r/ɹ]	[s]	[t]	[u]
Фф	Хх	Өө	Ьь	Шш	Ээ	Юю	Яя	Өө	Вв	Ээ
Ef	Ehv	Ømega	Jer	Ska	E	Ju	Ja	Þita	Y	Ætt
f	hv	ø/œ		sk	e	ju	ja	þ/ð	y	æ/ɛ
[f,v]	[ɬ]	[ø/ø:]	[ɹ]	[j]	[e]	[ju]	[ja]	[θ/ð]	[y]	[æ/ɔ]

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f	hv	ø/œ		sk	e	ju	ja	þ/ð	y	æ/ɛ
[f,v]	[ɬ]	[ø/ø:]	[ɹ]	[j]	[e]	[ju]	[ja]	[θ/ð]	[y]	[æ/ɔ]