

Standard	Common Contraction
and	'n
are	'r
are you	ya
because	'cause (*)
can	c'n
come	c'm
could have could not have	could 'a couldn 'a
did you	didja or 'dja
does she	dushi
don't know	dunno (*)
for	fer
give me	gimme (*)

Example	Notes
Do you know Nancy <i>'n</i> David?	
My parents <i>'r</i> on vacation.	
<p><i>Ya</i> going to the movie? Where <i>ya</i> going?</p>	<p><i>are you</i> is contracted only when followed by one or more words. Therefore, it would be incorrect to contract, <i>How are you?</i> to <i>How ya</i> unless it were followed by one or more words such as: <i>How ya doing?</i></p>
I don't like her 'cause she's mean.	
I <i>c'n</i> be there in one hour.	
<i>C'm</i> over to our house around 9:00.	This contraction does not apply if <i>come</i> falls at the end of the sentence.
<p>You <i>could 'a</i> hurt yourself! He <i>couldn't a</i> done it.</p>	<p>This also applies to the following: should have = <i>should 'a</i> shouldn't have = <i>shouldn't a</i> would have = <i>would 'a</i> wouldn't have = <i>wouldn't a</i></p>
<p>How <i>didja</i> do it? How <i>'dja</i> do it?</p>	<p>When followed by a word beginning with the letter "e," or "a" <i>'dja</i> is commonly contracted to <i>'dj'</i>: Did you eat yet = <i>'dj'eat yet?</i> Did you ask her = <i>'dj'ask 'er?</i></p>
<i>Dushi</i> speak English?	
I <i>dunno</i> where you live.	
He works <i>fer</i> his father.	This also applies to the following: forgive = <b>fergive</b> • forget = <b>ferget</b>
<i>Gimme</i> that!	

<b>Standard</b>	<b>Common Contraction</b>
going to	<p><i>gonna</i> (*)            (when followed by a consonant)</p> <p><i>gonnu</i>            (when followed by a vowel)</p>
goodbye	<i>g'bye</i>
got to	<p><i>gotta</i> (*)            (When followed by a consonant -            pronounced: <i>godda</i>)</p> <p><i>gottu</i>            (When followed by a vowel -            pronounced: <i>goddu</i>)</p>
had better	<i>better</i>
have to	<i>hafta</i>
he	'e
he/she has	<i>he/she 'as</i>
her	'er
him	'im
his	'is
how did you	<i>how'dya</i> or <i>how'dja</i>

Example	Notes
<p>I'm <i>gonna</i> give him a present.</p> <p>I'm <i>gonnu</i> invite her to the party.</p>	<p>When followed by a vowel, "going to" is commonly contracted to <i>gonnu</i>, although <i>gonna</i> is also acceptable.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SEE: got to = <i>gotta</i> or <i>gottu</i>.</li> </ul>
<p>I'll talk to you tomorrow. <b>G'bye!</b></p>	<p>This also applies to the following: good night = <b>g'night</b></p>
<p>I <i>gotta</i> give him a present</p> <p>I <i>gottu</i> invite her to my party.</p>	<p>When followed by a vowel, "got to" is commonly contracted to <i>gottu</i>, although <i>gotta</i> is also acceptable.</p>
<p>You <i>better</i> leave right now.</p>	
<p>I <i>hafta</i> go home immediately.</p>	<p>ALSO: (S)he <i>hasta/hadda</i></p>
<p>Who is <i>'e</i>?</p>	<p>This does not apply if <i>he</i> begins a sentence.</p>
<p>He <i>'as</i> a house at the beach.</p>	
<p>This is <i>'er</i> house.</p>	<p>This does not apply if <i>her</i> begins a sentence.</p>
<p>I like <i>'im</i> a lot</p>	
<p>What's <i>'is</i> name?</p>	<p>This does not apply if <i>his</i> begins a sentence.</p>
<p><i>How'dya/How'dja</i> make that?</p>	

Standard	Common Contraction
how do you	<b>how'dy'a</b>
how does	<i>how's</i>
in front of	<i>in fronna</i>
-ing	<i>-in' (*)</i>
is that	<i>izat</i>
just	<i>jus'</i>
leave me	<i>lee'me</i>
let me	<i>lem'me (*)</i>
of	<i>a or o' (*)</i>
old	<i>ol' (*)</i>
or	'r
out of	<i>outta (*)</i> (pronounced: <i>oudda</i> )

Example	Notes
<i>How'dy'a</i> do it?	When pronounced as two syllables, <i>how'dya</i> , the tense changes from present to past. Although subtle, this difference is easily detected by any native-born American. <i>How'dya do it?</i> = How did you do it? <i>How'dy'a do it?</i> = How do you do it?
<i>How's</i> she feel today?	
He parked <i>in fronna</i> the house.	
I'm <i>goin'</i> to the store.	
<i>Izat</i> your new car?	ALSO: <i>Zat your new car?</i>
<i>Jus'</i> get it later.	
<i>Lee'me</i> alone!	
<i>Lem'me</i> have it.	
He's <i>sorta</i> strange It's made <i>o'</i> wood	Although you will occasionally see the conjunction <i>of</i> contracted to <i>o'</i> , it is pronounced like <i>a</i> . Therefore, <i>It's made o' wood</i> would be pronounced, <i>It's made a wood</i> .
There's the <i>ol'</i> church.	
Do you like ice cream <i>'r</i> candy?	As you may have noticed, <i>'r</i> is a contraction not only of <i>are</i> but of <i>or</i> as well. The connotation depends on the context: <b>I c'n invite Tom'r Peggy.</b> = I can invite Tom or Peggy. <b>Tom'n Peggy'r invited.</b> = Tom and Peggy are invited.
Get <i>outta</i> here!	Pronounced: <i>Ged oudda here!</i>

<b>Standard</b>	<b>Common Contraction</b>
probably	<i>prob'ly</i> (*)
should not have	<i>shouldn'a</i>
some	<i>s'm</i>
sure	<i>sher</i>
them	'm / 'em (*)
to	<i>ta</i>
want to	<i>wanna</i> (*) (when followed by a consonant <i>or</i> vowel)  <i>wannu</i> (when followed by a vowel only)
what	<i>wud</i>
what are you	<i>wachya</i> or <i>wacha</i>

Example	Notes
He'll <i>prob'ly</i> come for dinner.	
You <i>shouldn'a</i> done that.	
Want <i>s'm</i> breakfast?	
<i>Sher</i> , I like chocolate!	A common expression indicating agreement is <i>For sure!</i> Pronounced: <i>Fer sher!</i>
I like <i>'m</i> a lot. / I like <i>'em</i> a lot.	
I don't know what <i>ta</i> do now.	NOTE (1): This applies to any word that begins with the combination "to" and whose accent does not fall on the first syllable: <i>today</i> , <i>tomorrow</i> , <i>tobacco</i> , etc. pronounced: <i>taday</i> , <i>tamorrow</i> , <i>tabacco</i> . NOTE (2): When preceded by a word which ends with an "r" or "o" sound, <i>to</i> is commonly pronounced <i>da</i> : I dunno where <i>da</i> go now.
I <i>wanna</i> go outside. I <i>wanna</i> eat something.  I <i>wannu</i> avoid the subject.	<i>Wanna</i> may be used either before a consonant or a vowel, whereas <i>wannu</i> may only be used before a vowel. It would sound strange to the ear to use <i>wannu</i> before a consonant such as <i>I wannu go</i> .
<i>Wud</i> if we went to the movies?	"What" is pronounced <i>whad</i> only when followed by a vowel.
<i>Wachya/Wacha</i> doin'?	This contraction can only occur if it is followed immediately by one or more words. It cannot stand alone: <i>What are you? Crazy?</i> It would be incorrect so say: <i>Wacha? Crazy?</i>



<b>Standard</b>	<b>Common Contraction</b>
what did you	<i>wudidya</i> or <i>wudjya</i> or <i>wudja</i>
what do you	<i>what cha</i> or <i>what chya</i> or <i>wuddy'a</i>
what does	<i>what's (*)</i>
what is the	<i>what's a</i>
would not have	<i>wudn'a</i>
you	<i>ya (*)</i>  <i>ja</i> (common pronunciation when preceded by the letter "d")  <i>y'</i> (common contraction when followed by a vowel)
why did you	<i>whyd'ya</i> or <i>whydja</i>
why do you	<i>why'dy'a</i>

Example	Notes
<i>Wudidya/Wudjya/ Wudja</i> buy?	
<i>What cha/What chya/ Wuddy'a</i> doing?	When <i>wuddya</i> is pronounced as two syllables, <i>wud'dya</i> , it becomes past tense. When pronounced as three syllables, <i>wud'dy'a</i> , it changes to present tense. This subtle difference is easily detected by any native-born American.
<i>What's</i> he do for a living?	Although a common colloquial contraction for "what does," <i>what's</i> is traditionally a contraction for "what is."
<i>What's a</i> matter?	ALSO: <i>Wassa matta?</i> (*)
I <i>wudn'a</i> done that if I were you.	
How are <i>ya</i> ?  Would <i>ja</i> like some ice cream? Did <i>ja</i> see that?  If <i>y'ever</i> need me, just call. Did <i>y'ever</i> see the movie?	
<i>Why'dya/Why'dja</i> tell him to leave?	
<i>Why'dy'a</i> work so hard?	When <i>whydya</i> is pronounced as two syllables, <i>why'dya</i> , it becomes past tense. When pronounced as three syllables, <i>why'dy'a</i> , it changes to present tense. This subtle difference is easily detected by any native-born American.