



DeenPath

New Muslim Starter Guide

Your first steps on the path of Islam

Gentle guidance for Shahada, Salah, Qur'an and community

Start with Mercy

You do not need to know everything at once

Build Salah

Learn the prayer gently, step by step

Find Support

Use DeenPath resources and community guidance

Welcome

A calm beginning for anyone who has taken Shahada or is taking first steps toward Islam.

You are beginning a journey

Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh - peace, mercy and blessings of Allah be upon you.

If you have recently taken your Shahada, or are taking your first steps toward Islam, this guide is for you. You do not need to know everything at once. You do not need to be perfect. Islam is a journey of gradual growth, sincere intention and continuous return to Allah.

Prophetic guidance

Religion is very easy, and whoever overburdens himself in his religion will not be able to continue in that way.

Sahih al-Bukhari

The Shahada - Your Declaration of Faith

The doorway into Islam

The Shahada, the Declaration of Faith, is the gateway into Islam:

Transliteration: Ash-hadu an la ilaha ill-Allah, wa ash-hadu anna Muhammadan rasul-ullah

Meaning: I bear witness that there is no god but Allah, and I bear witness that Muhammad is the messenger of Allah.

This declaration contains the essence of Islamic belief. The first part affirms the absolute oneness of God, Tawheed. The second connects you to the tradition of prophecy completed by Muhammad, peace be upon him.

A clean beginning

Islam wipes out whatever came before it. Your past is behind you. You begin with a completely clean slate.

Sahih Muslim

The Five Pillars of Islam

The foundations that shape Muslim belief, worship and daily discipline.

Islam rests on five foundational practices:

1 SHAHADA

Declaration of Faith. You have already done this if you have accepted Islam.

2 SALAH

Five daily prayers: Fajr, Dhuhr, Asr, Maghrib and Isha. These are the heartbeat of Islamic life.

3 ZAKAT

Obligatory charity of 2.5% of savings held for a full lunar year, given to those in need.

4 SAWM

Fasting from dawn to sunset during the holy month of Ramadan. An act of worship, self-discipline and solidarity.

5 HAJJ

Pilgrimage to Makkah at least once in a lifetime, for those who are physically and financially able.

A gentle order of growth

You are not expected to master everything immediately. Start with faith, then build Salah, Qur'an and character with patience.





Your First Priority: Learning Salah

Prayer is learned through repetition, patience and sincere effort.

Prayer gives structure to the day

Salah is the pillar that holds all others together. Before you pray, you perform Wudu, ritual purification. Each prayer consists of units called rak'ahs. During prayer you stand, bow, prostrate and sit, while reciting specific Arabic phrases.

Prophetic guidance

The first thing a servant will be held accountable for on the Day of Judgement is his prayer.

Abu Dawud

Learn gradually

Step 1

Start by memorising Al-Fatiha, the Opening Chapter of the Qur'an, recited in every prayer unit.

Step 2

Pray as best you can while learning. Allah accepts sincere effort.

Step 3

Use the DeenPath step-by-step guide at: deenpath.org/learn-salah

The Qur'an - Start Here

Begin with short, regular reading and reflection.

A steady Qur'an routine

The Qur'an is the word of Allah, revealed to the Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, over 23 years.

For new Muslims: read an English translation first; begin with Surah Al-Fatiha, Surah Al-Ikhlās, Surah Al-Falaq and Surah An-Nas; read a little each day. Even a single verse with reflection is blessed.

Access the full Qur'an with translation at: deenpath.org/quran

Finding Community

A good mosque, teacher or mentor can make the early days much easier.

You are not alone

Finding a mosque and Muslim community near you is one of the most valuable steps you can take. Most mosques warmly welcome new Muslims. Many have dedicated classes, support groups and mentors for those new to the faith.

Prophetic guidance

The believer to the believer is like a building, each part strengthening the other.

Bukhari and Muslim

Common Questions

My family are not Muslim - is that okay?

Yes. Islam honours family bonds. Show your family Islam through your character.

I don't know any Arabic - do I have to learn it?

Arabic is the language of prayer and the Qur'an. Learning it is deeply rewarding, but you begin from where you are. Sincerity matters most.

I keep making mistakes - will I ever get it right?

Yes. All of the children of Adam make mistakes, and the best of those who make mistakes are those who repent. Tirmidhi.

DeenPath.org Resources

Useful sections to help you learn at your own pace.

1

Learn Salah

Step-by-step with audio

deenpath.org/learn-salah

2

Qur'an Reader

Translation, transliteration and tafseer

deenpath.org/quran

3

Dua and Adhkar

Daily supplications

deenpath.org/adhkar

4

New Muslim Hub

Beginner support and next steps

deenpath.org/new-muslim

5

Articles

Guidance and learning material

deenpath.org/articles

A closing dua

May Allah make your path easy, accept your efforts and fill your heart with peace. Ameen.