

# Klingon Christmas Carols

(thlIngan Hol with pre-Federation English translation)

**01 Table of Contents**

**02 Klingon Pronunciation Guide (Courtesy of the KLI)**

**04 Deck the Halls / vaSDaq Ho'll tl tIHuSmoH**

**06 O Christmas Tree / QISmaS Sor quv**

**08 Rudolph the Red-Nosed Klingon Beast of Burden / ghlch Doq ghaj wa' 'er, ru'Dov**

**10 Silent Night / tam ramvam**

**12 Twelve Days of Xmas / QISmaS wa'maHcha' jaj**

(songs in pre-Federation English)

**14 The Klingon Christmas Song**

**15 Worf's White Christmas**

(traditional thlIngan Hol)

**16 The Warrior's Anthem / Suvwl' van bom ("Qoy qeyllS puqloD)**

## Klingon Pronunciation Guide

(Courtesy of the Klingon Language Institute - [www.kli.org](http://www.kli.org))

- a (a)** Like the “a” sound in English “father.” Never like in “acid” (American pronunciation).
- b (b)** Like in English “bob” or “playbill.”
- c (ch)** Like in English “chew” or “chocolate.”
- d (D)** Not quite like the English “d” sound. Touch the tip of your tongue to the very top of your mouth, the highest point on your palate, instead of near the teeth like for an English “d.” Then do the same thing you’d do to make a “d.”
- e (e)** Like the “e” in English “bed.”
- g (gh)** A gargled sound, at the back of the throat. Like the Klingon H, only voiced. It’s very much like the French gargled “r.”
- h (H)** A harsh sound in the throat, found in German (as in “Bach”) or the Hebrew toast “l’chayim.” Make sure you pronounce this harshly and unvoiced.
- i (I)** Like the “i” sound in English “bit.”
- j (j)** Like the “j” in English “junk.” Never like in French “jour.”
- l (l)** Like in English “lunch.”
- m (m)** Like in English “mother.”
- n (n)** Like in English “nose” or “any.”
- f (ng)** The same sound as occurs at the end of English “thing,” only in Klingon it can also come at the beginnings of words. Be careful when starting a word or syllable with this sound. It’s against the rules of English, and it may take some practice.
- o (o)** Like in English “note” or “mosaic.” As with other letters, don’t get distracted by English words spelled with the same letters. The Klingon word not sounds like English “note,” not like “not” (which in Klingon lettering would be spelled nat).
- p (p)** Like in English “pipe” or “pop.” Pronounce it with a puff of air.
- k (q)** A little like English “k,” but not really. This sound is to be made as far back in your mouth as possible, with the back of your tongue actually touching your uvula (the fleshy blob that hangs down over your throat). It sounds a little like you’re choking.
- q (Q)** A little like a Klingon q immediately followed by a Klingon H. Close off your mouth as far back as you can, like with q, and force air up, like you’re trying to dislodge food stuck in your throat. It sounds a lot like you’re choking.
- r (R)** A lightly trilled or rolled “r.” If you can’t trill with the tip of your tongue, just do a flap (or even a regular English r will be understood), but don’t gargle the “r,” or it’ll sound like a gh.

**s (S)** A sound somewhat like an English “sh,” but made farther back. Put your tongue where you did for the Klingon D, but don’t quite touch the roof of your mouth. Make an “s” sound with your tongue up there.

**t (t)** Like English “t” in “tip.” Pronounce it powerfully, with a puff of air.

**x (tlh)** This is a tough one to describe. Put your tongue in position to say a “t,” but instead of pulling the tip of your tongue away from your palate, drop the *sides*, sort of like what happens near the end of the word “waddle” in English. This should leave you in position to say an “l,” but make sure you don’t use your voice: whisper the “l”; hiss it out between your teeth. The dropping of the sides of your tongue should be done forcefully; this is another spitter.

**u (u)** Like in English “prune” or “fool.”

**v (v)** Like in English “vicious.”

**w (w)** Like in English “wisdom.” Sometimes this sound will follow an a, an e, or an l, yielding:

- aw, rhyming with English “cow.”
- ew, not like anything in English. Basically the “e” in “bed” run into a “w.” A good way to get to this is to think of Elmer Fudd saying “tewwible.”
- lw, also unlike anything in English. Again, it’s like the “i” in “bit” run into a “w.” It’s close to “Eww!” the expression of disgust.

**y (y)** Like in English “yet.” This sound, like w, forms diphthongs:

- ay, rhyming with English “why.”
- ey, rhyming with English “may” (*Note:* The Klingon word may, of course, sounds like English “my.” See above).
- ly, rhyming with English “key.”
- oy, rhyming with English “boy.”
- uy, sort of like English “gooey,” but not quite. It’s one syllable, while “gooey” is two. Think of English “Do you” and drop off the last vowel sound.

**z (‘)** A sound we use in English, but don’t consider a sound. It’s the catch in the throat we put in the beginnings of words that start with vowels, or in phrases like “uh-oh.” In Klingon, it can also come at the ends of syllables, where it has to be pronounced carefully (e.g. the words tl and tl’ have very different meanings). This one takes practice to get right in all positions.

## **Deck the Halls / vaSDaq Ho'll tl tIHuSmoH**

(tlhIngan Hol)

**vaSDaq Ho'll tl tIHuSmoH**

**va va va va va va va va va**

**DaH qaS QuchmeH bov wlbUSbogh**

**va va va va va va va va va**

**'eH malopmeH Sut wltuQjaj**

**va va va va va va va va va**

**QISmaS bom tIQmo' maDuQjaj**

**va va va va va va va va va**

**retlhmajDaq Sorqul tISugh je**

**va va va va va va va va va**

**chuSchoHjaj Dron chuS'ugh je**

**va va va va va va va va va**

**tlvtaHmeH yltwl' Hltlha'qa'**

**va va va va va va va va va**

**QISmaS bel'e' tugh qaja'pa'**

**va va va va va va va va va**

# Deck the Halls / vaSDaq Ho'll tl tIHuSmoH

(pre-Federation English)

Hang the H'oli vegetation at the hall

Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn

Now is the time for being happy which we concentrate on

Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn

This is an order: let us wear clothes in order to celebrate

Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn

Let us emotionally move people though ancient chants of K'irshmarsh

Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn

By our side, you must also install in office a tree fire

Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn

Let the bagpipe and the heavy-noise start making noise

Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn

You marchers must follow me once more for the purposes of continuous enjoyment

Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn

Before I report to you soon the pleasure of K'irshmarsh

Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn Damn

## **O Christmas Tree / QISmaS Sor quv**

(tlhIngan Hol)

**QISmaS Sor quv, QISmaS Sor quv,  
choHbe'taH pormeyllj matlh.  
qaStaHvIS DIS poH tuj, reH SuD,  
SuDtaH blrDI' 'ej peDDI' muD.  
QISmaS Sor quv, QISmaS Sor quv,  
choHbe'taH pormeyllj matlh.**

**QISmaS Sor quv, QISmaS Sor quv,  
SoH 'IH law' Hoch Sor 'IH puS.  
Hoch DIS chobelqu'moH net Sov,  
DuwovmoHchu' Hoch ram maSwov.  
QISmaS Sor quv, QISmaS Sor quv,  
SoH 'IH law' Hoch Sor 'IH puS**

**QISmaS Sor quv, QISmaS Sor quv,  
jIH mughojmoH je pormey.  
jItullaH 'ej jImatlhlaH 'ej  
jISaHlaH 'e' mughojmoHbej.  
QISmaS Sor quv, QISmaS Sor quv,  
jIH mughojmoH je pormey.**

## **O Christmas Tree / QISmaS Sor quv**

(pre-Federation English)

**The Christmas tree gets honored, the Christmas tree gets honored,  
your loyal leafs don't change.**

**during the warm season, always green,  
continously green, if it is cold and if it snows.**

**The Christmas tree gets honored, the Christmas tree gets honored,  
your loyal leafs don't change.**

**The Christmas tree gets honored, the Christmas tree gets honored,  
you are the most beautiful tree.**

**Everyone knows, that you are making me happy the whole year,  
every night the moonlight lets you glow perfectly.**

**The Christmas tree gets honored, the Christmas tree gets honored,  
you are the most beautiful tree.**

**The Christmas tree gets honored, the Christmas tree gets honored,  
also your leafs teach me.**

**I can hope and I can be loyal,**

**I can be present, that is why they teach me without a doubt.**

**The Christmas tree gets honored, the Christmas tree gets honored,  
also your leafs teach me.**

**Rudolph the Red-Nosed Klingon Beast of Burden /  
ghlch Doq ghaj wa' 'er, ru'Dov**

(thlIngan Hol)

ghlch Doq ghaj wa' 'er, ru'Dov.  
bochqu' ghlchDaj 'e' vIDIS.  
chaq 'ervam leghDI' neH vay',  
"wewqu' ghlchvam" jatlhlu'nIS.  
HaghtaH 'ej reH luvaqtaH  
Hoch latlh 'ermey, bejtaHDI'.  
'er Qujmey muvchoH ru'Dov,  
chlch reH 'e' lutuch naSwI'!  
'a QISmaS wa'Hu', 'eng blngDaq,  
jatlhchoH SantatIhoS:  
"ghlch wew ghajbogh ru'Dovwlj,  
Dujwlj'e' DaHjaj ylchlj!"  
tugh jupDaj Dachoh 'ermey.  
Quchqu'choH 'ej jachchoH Hoch:  
"ghlch Doq Daghajbogh ru'Dov,  
quv'a'llj'e' not wtlhoch!"

## **Rudolph the Red-Nosed Klingon Beast of Burden / ghlch Doq ghaj wa' 'er, ru'Dov**

(pre-Federation English)

A Klingon Beast of Burden, R'udov, had a red nose.  
I confess that its nose was quite shiny.  
As soon as one perchance saw this Klingon Beast of  
Burden,  
one would be obliged to say, "This nose glows."  
The other Klingon Beasts of Burden, upon continually  
staring at it,  
kept laughing and always kept mocking it.  
The vicious ones perpetually and deliberately forbade  
R'udov  
from participating in Klingon Beast of Burden games!  
However, on the day before K'irshmarsh, beneath the  
clouds,  
Shantak'lorsh began speaking:  
"My R'udov, who have a glowing nose,  
as for my vehicle, today you shall navigate it!"  
Soon the Klingon Beasts of Burden starting behaving as  
his friends.  
They all started rejoicing and saying:  
"R'udov, you who have a red nose,  
as for your honour, we shall never contradict it!"

# **Silent Night / tam ramvam**

(thlIngan Hol)

**tam ramvam! Dun ramvam!**

**jot Hoch, wov Hoch**

**DaqDaq Dabbogh SoS ghuDaj je**

**HoS ghu Dun 'ej Hoch quvmoHqu'**

**SujHa'jaj QongtaHghachllj!**

**SujHa'jaj QongtaHghachllj!**



# Twelve Days of Xmas / QISmas wa'maHcha' jaj

(thllngan Hol)

- 1 qaSDI' QISmas jaj wa', jIHvaD Dochvam nob bang matlh:  
meQtaHbogh wa' 'enterpray'qoq (je).
- 2 qaSDI' QISmas jaj cha', jIHvaD Dochvam nob bang matlh:  
cha' romuluS HIq,
- 3 qaSDI' QISmas jaj wej, jIHvaD Dochvam nob bang matlh:  
wej yuch yIH cha' romuluS HIq
- 4 qaSDI' QISmas jaj loS, jIHvaD Dochvam nob bang matlh:  
loS betleH jej,
- 5 qaSDI' QISmas jaj vagh, jIHvaD Dochvam nob bang matlh:  
- vagh toQDuj Doj,
- 6 qaSDI' QISmas jaj jav, jIHvaD Dochvam nob bang matlh:  
jav bajarngan tlhiv,
- 7 qaSDI' QISmas jaj Soch, jIHvaD Dochvam nob bang matlh:  
Soch romuluSngan 'ong,
- 8 qaSDI' QISmas jaj chorgh, jIHvaD Dochvam nob bang matlh:  
chorgh verengan qur,
- 9 qaSDI' QISmas jaj Hut, jIHvaD Dochvam nob bang matlh:  
Hut be'tatlhoyDngan nuQ,
- 10 qaSDI' QISmas jaj wa'maH, jIHvaD Dochvam nob bang matlh:  
wa'maH tera'ngan ghIH,

- 11 qaSDI' QISmas jaj wa'maH cha', jIHvaD Dochvam nob bang math:  
wa'maH wa' qarDaSngan qej,
- 12 qaSDI' QISmas jaj wa'maH wej, jIHvaD Dochvam nob bang math:  
wa'maH cha' vulqanngan Dal,

(pre-Federation English)

When it is Christmas's 12th day, my loyal love gives me this thing:  
twelve boring Vulcans  
eleven grouchy Cardassians  
ten sloppy Terrans  
nine annoying Batazed  
eight greedy Ferengi  
seven cunning Romulans  
six insubordinate Bajorans  
- five impressive Birds of Prey  
four sharp swords  
three chocolate Tribbles  
two Romulan ales and  
one burning Enterprise!

## **The Klingon Christmas Song**

(to melody of "Chestnuts roasting on an open fire....")

**Phasers flashing in the depths of space,  
Ripping up an airtight hull;  
Signs of fear on you enemy's face,  
And life-support signs reading null!  
Ev'rybody knows a Romulan's a spineless foe  
Who lacks the Klingon will to fight!  
Phaser beams set his torso aglow --  
He'll find it hard to breathe tonight!**

**He knows that Gowron's on his way  
And soon he'll be the object of the verb "to  
slay"!  
And ev'ry slinking Rom and Pakled spy  
Will soon be the subject of the verb "to die"!**

**And so, I'm offering this simple threat  
To Feds, and all those Cardies, too:  
You'll be as dead as a life-form can get --  
Merry Christmas to you!**

## **Worf's White Christmas**

(to the melody of "White Christmas")

**I'm dreaming of a dead Pakled  
Just like the one in Rec Deck Eight.  
They all think they've hidden,  
But this one didn't,  
And I'm using him as bait.  
I'm dreaming of a dead Pakled--  
Their mental skills are rather lame.  
May your foes die sonless, in shame--  
And I hope you're wishing me the same!**

# **The Warrior's Anthem / Suvwl' van bom**

## **“Qoy qeylls puqloD”**

(thllIngan Hol)

**Qoy qeylls puqloD.**

**Qoy puqbe'pu'.**

**yoHbogh matlhbogh je Suvwl'**

**Say'moHchu' may' 'Iw.**

**maSuv manong 'ej maHoHchu'.**

**nI'be' yInmaj 'ach wovqu'.**

**batlh maHeghbej 'ej yo' qIjDaq vavpu'ma'**

**DImuv. pa' reH maSuvtaHqu'.**

**mamevQo'. maSuvtaH. Ma'ov.**

# The Warrior's Anthem / Suvwl' van bom

## “Qoy qeyllS puqloD”

(thllIngan Hol)

Hear, sons of Kahless!

Hear, daughters!

The battle's blood perfectly cleans  
the warrior who is brave and loyal.

We fight, we are passionate, and we kill perfectly.

Our lives are not long, but they are very bright.

We will certainly die with honor, and we will join our fathers in  
the black fleet. There we will continue to *fight*.

We will not stop. We will continue to fight. We will compete.

