

Swedish is a Scandinavian Language spoken primarily in Sweden by 7.83 million people (1986). There are also another 341,000 speakers in Finland and smaller populations in Estonia, the U.S., and Canada. The total world-wide is approximately 10 million.

The speaker in this recording is a 30 year-old female from Stockholm, Sweden.

Swedish Consonant Phonemes:

Stops:	p	t	t̚	k
	b	d	d̚	g
Affricates:		ts		
Fricatives:	f	s	ʃ	x
	v			h
Nasals:	m	n	ŋ	ŋ
Liquids:		r l	l̥	(R)
Glides:				j (w)

The retroflex series developed from an underlyingly trill + dental combination. /rs/, however, became [ʃ] (a phoneme that already existed in the system) instead of the retroflex [ʂ]. Depending on the speaker, [w] appears in some borrowings, but is often realised as [v]. The alveolar trill and the uvular trill are typical of the northern and southern dialects of Swedish respectively, although there is intermediate variation apparent.

Swedish Vowel Phonemes:

Vowels Exhibited:

i:	y:	u(:)	u(:)	i:	u:	ɔ:
ɪ	ʏ					
e(:)	ø	ɔ	ø	ɔ		
ɛ(:)	æ		ɔ			ɔ
	a(:)			a		ɑ:

The vowel sample given here is obviously incomplete.

Swedish Tones:

There are two tones distinguished in Swedish: 1) Falling, and 2) Rising -Falling.

I. Word Lists

Tone Contrasts:

1. [ándɔn] 'duck'
2. [ãndɔn] 'the spirit'

3.	[tɔ̃mtøn]	'the building site'
4.	[tɔ̃m:tøn]	'the goblin'
5.	[bʲi:tøn]	'the fragment'
6.	[bʲi:tøn]	'bitten'
7.	[bʲu:røn]	'the cage'
8.	[bʲu:røn]	'carried'
9.	[knʲu:tøn]	'the knot'
10.	[knʲu:tøn]	'tied'
11.	[skʲu:røn]	'the shower'
12.	[skʲu:røn]	'cut'
13.	[slɑ:gøt]	'the battle'
14.	[slɑ:gøt]	'beaten'
15.	[fal:ət]	'the case'
16.	[fal:ət]	'fallen'

VC/VC Pairs:

17.	[fa:t]	'dish'
18.	[fa:t]	'speed'
19.	[mɔ:d]	'courage'
20.	[mɔ:d]	'murder'
21.	[ka:l]	'bald'
22.	[ka:l]	'Karl'
23.	[kɔ:n]	'cone'
24.	[kɔ:n]	'grain'
25.	[ʁɔ:s]	'rose'
26.	[ʁɔ:f]	'at the helm'

References:

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