

— FREE STARTER GUIDE

100 Darija *phrases* to survive your first week.

The Moroccan Arabic locals actually speak — written the way they actually text. From greetings to taxis to family dinners, with pronunciation and Arabic script.

Read me *first.*

Welcome. Before diving in, a quick word about what you're holding. **Darija** (الدارجة) is the Moroccan dialect of Arabic – and it's a different language from the "Arabic" you'll find in most textbooks. If you've ever opened an Arabic book and felt nothing connected to what people actually say in the streets of Casablanca, this is why.

This guide gives you 100 essential phrases organized into 8 real-life themes. Every phrase is presented three ways:

How each phrase is written

EN **English meaning** – what the phrase is for, when to use it.

AZ **Arabizi (Latin script)** – how Moroccans actually text. Numbers replace letters with no Latin equivalent: 3 = ق = 9, ح = 7, ع. Read it phonetically.

ع **Arabic script** – for those who can already read Arabic, or want to learn the alphabet later.

PRO TIP – THE 7 / 3 / 9 RULE

Don't be intimidated by the numbers in Arabizi. They're shapes! **7** looks like ح (a soft "h" from the throat). **3** looks like ع (a vowel from deeper in the throat). **9** looks like ق (a "k" sound from the back of the mouth). After two days, you'll read them automatically.

Greetings & politeness.

السلام

01	Hello / Peace	<i>Salam</i>	سلام
02	Peace be upon you (formal)	<i>Salam 3likom</i>	السلام عليكم
03	Good morning	<i>Sba7 lkhir</i>	صباح الخير
04	Good evening	<i>Msa lkhir</i>	مساء الخير
05	How are you?	<i>Labas? / Kidayr?</i>	لاباس؟ / كيداير؟
06	I'm fine, thanks	<i>Labas, hamdoullah</i>	لاباس، الحمد لله
07	Thank you	<i>Choukran</i>	شكرا
08	You're welcome	<i>La choukr 3la wajib</i>	لا شكر على واجب
09	Please	<i>3afak</i>	عفاك
10	Excuse me / Sorry	<i>Smeh liya</i>	سمح لييا
11	Goodbye	<i>Bslama</i>	بسلامة
12	See you later	<i>N-chofok men ba3d</i>	نشوفك من بعد

CULTURAL NOTE

"Labas?" literally means "no harm?" — Moroccans answer with "Labas, hamdoullah" ("no harm, thank God") even when things are bad. It's a ritual, not a literal status update.

Introduce yourself.

التعارف

13	My name is...	Smiti...	سميتي...
14	What's your name?	Achno smitek?	أشنو سميتك؟
15	Nice to meet you	Mtcharfin	متشرفين
16	I'm from France	Ana men Fransa	أنا من فرنسا
17	Where are you from?	Mnin enta? / Mnin enti?	منين انت؟ / منين انتي؟
18	I live in Casablanca	Kan-skon f Dar Lbida	كنتسكن ف الدار البيضاء
19	I speak a little Darija	Kan-tkellem chwiya darija	كنتكلم شوية دارجة
20	I don't speak Arabic well	Ma kan-tkellem-ch l3arbiya mezyan	ما كنتكلمش العربية مزيان
21	I'm learning Darija	Kan-t3allem darija	كنتتعلم دارجة
22	Do you speak French/English?	Kat-tkellem fransawiya / negliziya?	كنتكلم فرنساوية / إنكليزية؟
23	Can you repeat please?	3awed 3afak?	عاود عفاك؟
24	Slowly please	B-chwiya 3afak	بشوية عفاك

MINI GRAMMAR

The "kan-" prefix means "I am [doing]" in present tense. *Kan-skon* = I live. *Kan-tkellem* = I speak. *Kan-akol* = I eat. Once you spot it, half of conversational Darija opens up.

Café & restaurant.

القهوة

25	A coffee, please	<i>Kahwa 3afak</i>	قهوة عفاك
26	A coffee with milk	<i>Kahwa b-l-7lib (nous-nous)</i>	قهوة بالحليب
27	Mint tea	<i>Atay b-na3na3</i>	أتاي بالنعناع
28	Without sugar	<i>Bla sokar</i>	بلا سكر
29	Water please	<i>L-ma 3afak</i>	الما عفاك
30	The menu, please	<i>L-carte 3afak</i>	الكارت عفاك
31	I'll take this	<i>Ghadi nakhod hada</i>	غادي ناخذ هادا
32	It's delicious	<i>Bnin / Ldid</i>	بنين / لذيذ
33	I'm full	<i>Chba3t</i>	شبعت
34	The bill, please	<i>L-7sab 3afak</i>	الحساب عفاك
35	I'm vegetarian	<i>Ma kan-akol-ch l-l7em</i>	ما كناكلش اللحم
36	Cheers / To your health	<i>Bessaha</i>	بصحة

CAFÉ CODE

A "nous-nous" (literally "half-half") is the Moroccan answer to a flat white: half coffee, half hot milk in a small glass. Order one and you instantly look like a regular.

Taxi & directions.

الطاكسي

37	Taxi!	Taxi!	طاكسي!
38	Use the meter, please	<i>Khellini n-comptor 3afak</i>	خليني نكنطور عفاك
39	Take me to...	<i>Ddini l...</i>	ديني ل...
40	How much will it cost?	<i>Sh7al?</i>	شحال؟
41	It's too expensive	<i>Ghali bezzaf</i>	غالي بزاف
42	Stop here, please	<i>Wquef hna 3afak</i>	وقف هنا عفاك
43	Straight ahead	<i>Nichan</i>	نیشان
44	Turn right	<i>Dor 3la limen</i>	دور على ليمن
45	Turn left	<i>Dor 3la lisar</i>	دور على ليسار
46	Where is...?	<i>Fin kayn...?</i>	فين كاين...؟
47	Is it far?	<i>B3id?</i>	بعيد؟
48	Keep the change	<i>Khelli l-baqi</i>	خلي الباقي

PETIT TAXI SURVIVAL

Petits taxis (red in Casablanca, blue in Rabat, beige in Marrakech) MUST use the meter ("comptor"). If a driver refuses, just step out and find another. Saying "khellini n-comptor" the moment you sit down saves you 30% of arguments.

Shopping & souk.

السوق

49	How much is this?	B-sh7al hada?	بشحال هذا؟
50	It's too expensive	Ghali bezzaf	غالي بزاف
51	Lower the price	Naqes m3aya	نقص معايا
52	Last price	Akher taman	آخر ثمن
53	I'll come back later	N-rja3 men ba3d	نرجع من بعد
54	Just looking	Ghir kan-tferraj	غير كنتفرج
55	Do you have...?	3andek...?	عندك...؟
56	I want this one	Bghit hada	بغيت هذا
57	Another color?	Lawn akhor?	لون آخر؟
58	Bigger / Smaller	Kbir / Sghir	كبير / صغير
59	Where is the ATM?	Fin kayn l-guichet?	فين كاين الكيشي؟
60	Cash or card?	Cash wla carte?	كاش ولا كارط؟
61	Receipt please	L-fatora 3afak	الفاتورة عفاك

BARGAINING ETIQUETTE

First price quoted in a souk is rarely the real one. A respectful counter-offer is around 40-50% of the asking price. Smile, walk away once if needed, and never bargain unless you actually want to buy.

Numbers & time.

الأرقام

62	One / Two / Three	Wahed / Jouj / Tlata	واحد / جوج / ثلاثة
63	Four / Five / Six	Reb3a / Khemsa / Setta	ربعة / خمسة / ستة
64	Seven / Eight / Nine / Ten	Seb3a / Tmenya / Tes3oud / 3achra	سبعة / ثمانية / تسعود / عشرة
65	Twenty / Fifty / One hundred	3achrin / Khemsin / Mya	عشرين / خمسين / مية
66	What time is it?	Sh7al fessa3a?	شحال فالساعة؟
67	Today / Tomorrow / Yesterday	L-yum / Ghedda / L-bare7	اليوم / غدا / البارح
68	Now / Later / Soon	Daba / Men ba3d / 9rib	دابا / من بعد / قريب
69	Morning / Afternoon / Night	Sba7 / L-3chiya / L-lil	صباح / العشية / الليل
70	A lot / A little	Bezzaf / Chwiya	بزاف / شوية
71	Open / Closed	Mahlul / Msdoud	محلول / مسدود
72	Hot / Cold	Skhoun / Bared	سخون / بارد
73	Good / Bad	Mezyan / Khayb	مزيان / خايب
74	Big / Small	Kbir / Sghir	كبير / صغير

"BEZZAF" — YOUR MOST USEFUL WORD

Bezzaf means "a lot" or "too much." Use it everywhere: *ghali bezzaf* (too expensive), *skhoun bezzaf* (too hot), *shukran bezzaf* (thanks a lot). Master this single word and you'll sound twice as fluent.

Family & *small talk.*

العائلة

75	Mother / Father	Mama / Baba	ماما / بابا
76	Brother / Sister	Khoya / Khti	خويا / ختي
77	Wife / Husband	Mrati / Rajli	مراتي / راجلي
78	Son / Daughter	Weldi / Benti	ولدي / بنتي
79	My friend	Sa7bi / Sa7bti	صاحبي / صاحبتني
80	How old are you?	Sh7al f-3morek?	شحال فعمرك؟
81	I'm 30 years old	3andi tlatin sna	عندي ثلاثين سنة
82	Are you married?	M-zewj? / M-zewja?	مزوج؟ / مزوجة؟
83	I have children	3andi drari	عندي دراري
84	What do you do?	Ach kat-khdem?	أش كتخدم؟
85	I love Morocco	Kan-bghi l-Maghrib	كنبغي المغرب
86	I'm happy / I'm tired	Ana fer7an / 3eyyan	أنا فرحان / عيان
87	No problem	Mashi mouchkil	ماشي مشكل

HOSPITALITY 101

If a Moroccan invites you for tea, refusing politely is fine — but accepting opens doors. Bring something small (pastries from a patisserie). Compliments to the cook are huge: "*Bnin bezzafi!*" (delicious!) goes a long way.

Emergencies & *essentials*.

الطوارئ

88	Help!	<i>3awnouni!</i>	عاونوني!
89	Call a doctor	<i>3eyyet l-tbib</i>	عيط الطبيب
90	I'm sick	<i>Ana mrid / Ana mrida</i>	أنا مريض / مريضة
91	I'm lost	<i>Tellaft</i>	تلغت
92	Where's the pharmacy?	<i>Fin kayna pharmacie?</i>	فين كاينة فارماشي؟
93	Police	<i>L-bolice</i>	البوليس
94	I don't understand	<i>Ma fhemt-ch</i>	ما فهمتش
95	I understand	<i>Fhemt</i>	فهمت
96	Yes / No	<i>Ah / La</i>	آه / لا
97	OK / Got it	<i>Wakha</i>	واخا
98	God willing (maybe)	<i>Inchallah</i>	إن شاء الله
99	Thank God	<i>Hamdoullah</i>	الحمد لله
100	Let's go!	<i>Yallah!</i>	يلا!

THE BIG THREE

Wakha (OK), *Inchallah* (God willing), and *Hamdoullah* (thanks to God) are the holy trinity of Moroccan small talk. Sprinkle them anywhere and you'll instantly sound 50% more local.

— YOU FINISHED. NOW WHAT?

Yallah, *let's keep going.*

100 phrases is a great start — but real conversation needs structure, practice, and a teacher who keeps you accountable. Here's how we can help, when you're ready.

Trial Lesson · 30 min · 1-on-1

99 MAD / \$10

Pack of 10 private lessons

2,200 MAD / \$220

Group classes (monthly subscription)

350 MAD / \$35

Marrakech Bootcamp · 7 days immersive

6,500 MAD / \$650

EXCLUSIVE FOR PDF READERS

15% off your first lesson *pack.*

Use code **YALLAH15** at checkout. Valid 30 days from today.

yallahdarija.com