

Examples of wrong spellings of my surname: 'Søndergaard':

Sondergaard
Soindergaard
Sandergaard
Søndergåard
Schondergraad
Sendergaard
Söndergaard
Soenderguard
Soendergaaro

Correct alternatives to 'Søndergaard':

Soendergaard
Søndergård

The Danish alphabet:

Danish is written using the Latin alphabet with three extra letters (vowels) placed at the end of the alphabet: Æ (æ), Ø (ø), and Å (å). The corresponding double characters are: AE (ae), OE (oe), and AA (aa). The Danish alphabet therefore consists of 28 letters as W (w) is not part of it. Æ (AE) sounds like a in ache but very short. Ø (OE) is rather similar to German ö but the sound is shorter. It sounds like ir in bird but the sound is short and without the r and with lips more rounded. Å (AA) sounds like au in caught or like o in old. Hints of pronunciation is taken from:

<http://dkheadlines.com/learndanish.htm#pron>

How to pronounce 'Søndergaard':

'Søndergaard' means 'south (sønder) farm (gaard)'. It is the name of the old family farm from the 1600's on the Danish island Mors.

- (1) The easiest way to pronounce it is to think of the word 'synagogue' or 'Senegal'. It almost has the same 'melody'.
- (2) Both 'd's are silent.
- (3) 'aa' is in this case the same as the letter 'å'.