

Family Vocabulary in Three Languages

Words for family and relationships

Tip: The fastest way to remember a word is to use it in a complete sentence.

Free download for learners of Somali, Swahili and English.

Core vocabulary and phrases

English	Somali	Swahili
mother	hooyo	mama
father	aabbe	baba
parent	waalid	mzazi
child	ilmo	mtoto
son	wiil	mwana wa kiume
daughter	gabadha	mwana wa kike
brother	walaal	ndugu wa kiume
sister	walaashay / walaal	ndugu wa kike
husband	sayga	mume
wife	xaaska	mke
uncle	adeer / abti	mjomba
aunt	eedo / habaryar	shangazi
grandfather	awoowe	babu
grandmother	ayeeyo	bibi
friend	saaxiib	rafiki

Useful sentence patterns

English pattern: This is my family.

English pattern: My mother is at home.

English pattern: I have two brothers.

Practice

Translate the sentence patterns into Somali and Swahili, then personalise them with your own words.