

Short Surahs Tracker

Nineteen surahs, in an order that works, with a box for the check that actually matters.

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#	Surah	No.	Verses	Started	Reached the end	Passed the pause test	Notes
1	Al-Fatiha	1	7			☐	Required in every rak'ah. Get this one right before anything else.
2	Al-Ikhlās	112	4	.....	.....	☐	Start here. Four short lines.
3	Al-Falaq	113	5	.....	.....	☐	Used in the morning and evening adhkar too.
4	An-Nas	114	6	.....	.....	☐	Repeats, but the repetition is easy to hear.
5	Al-Kawthar	108	3	.....	.....	☐	The shortest surah in the Quran by word count.
6	Al-Asr	103	3	.....	.....	☐	Three verses, and the second one is long.
7	An-Nasr	110	3	.....	.....	☐	Watch the endings. Children flatten them.
8	Quraysh	106	4	.....	.....	☐	Learn it with Al-Fil, which comes just before.
9	Al-Fil	105	5	.....	.....	☐	A story, which children hold on to well.
10	Al-Masad	111	5	.....	.....	☐	Harder than five verses suggests.
11	Al-Qadr	97	5	.....	.....	☐	A good one to time for Ramadan.
12	Al-Kafirun	109	6	.....	.....	☐	Near-identical lines. Learn it line by line.
13	Al-Ma'un	107	7	.....	.....	☐	Longer sentences than the count implies.
14	Ash-Sharh	94	8	.....	.....	☐	Short verses, gentle rhythm.
15	At-Tin	95	8	.....	.....	☐	Two oaths at the start often run together.
16	Az-Zalzalah	99	8	.....	.....	☐	Vivid imagery, which helps recall.
17	At-Takathur	102	8	.....	.....	☐	One phrase repeats almost exactly.
18	Al-Bayyinah	98	8	.....	.....	☐	Several long verses. A real step up.
19	Al-Humazah	104	9	.....	.....	☐	The natural end of the beginner set.

Tick the last column, not the middle one. A child reaches the end of a surah about a week before they can stop after every verse and start the next one cold. Until that works, the surah is a tune, not a memory.

1. The pause test

Stop after every verse and wait for a nod. If they cannot start the next verse cold, it is not memorized yet.

2. The same-line test

Give three words from a middle verse. Can they carry on from there, or only from the beginning?

3. The cold start

Ask in the car on a Saturday, outside the usual practice slot. That is the recall prayer needs.

4. The recording

Thirty seconds of them, then a known reciter. Listen twice for anything different in the same place.