



Russian For Everyone
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Russian Alphabet












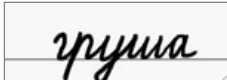


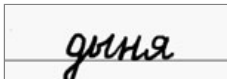






There are 33 letters in the Russian Alphabet: 10 vowels, 21 consonants, and 2 signs (ь, ъ).

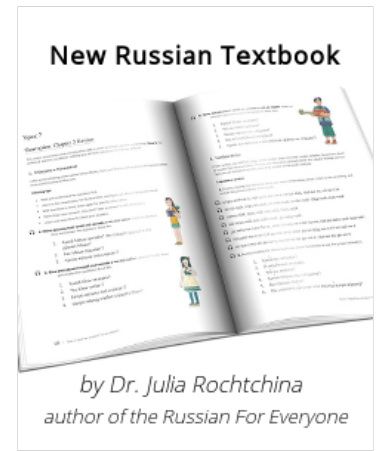
Russian is an Eastern Slavonic language closely related to Ukrainian and Belorussian with about 277 million speakers in Russia and 30 other countries.













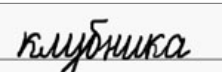











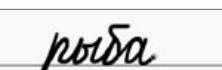





The Cyrillic alphabet was introduced into Russia (Kievan Rus') at the time of its conversion to Christianity (988 AD). The alphabet, the Cyrillic script is named in honor of the Byzantine scholar and monk, Cyril (827-869 AD), who, together with his brother Methodius (826-885 AD), created the first Slavic writing system in the second half of the ninth century in order to translate the Bible and other Christian texts into the Slavic languages.









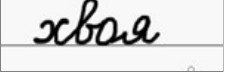




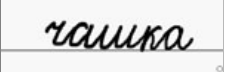


















Click each letter to listen, then click again and repeat after speaker imitating the pronunciation as closely as you can.

Click "Play" to watch how to handwrite letters and words.

Letter	Handwriting	Name of Letter	Similar English Sound	Sample	Handwriting
А а	 Play	a	like ar in far	 А́том	 Play
Б б	 Play	be	like b in box	 ба́тон	 Play
В в	 Play	ve	like v in voice	 ва́режки	 Play
Г г	 Play	ge	like g in go	 гру́ша	 Play
Д д	 Play	de	like d in day	 ды́ня	 Play
Е е	 Play	ye	like ye in yet or e in exit	 ежеви́ка	 Play
Ё ё	 Play	yo	like yo in your	 ёж	 Play



Ж ж		zhe	like s in pleasure		жук	
	Play					Play
З з		ze	like z in zoo		замок	
	Play					Play
И и		ee	like ee in meet		икра	
	Play					Play
Й й		ee kratkoye (short i)	like y in boy		йогурт	
	Play					Play
К к		ka	like k in key or c in cat		клубника	
	Play					Play
Л л		el	like l in lamp		лимон	
	Play					Play
М м		em	like m in man		малина	
	Play					Play
Н н		en	like n in note		носки	
	Play					Play
О о		o	like o in not		овоци	
	Play					Play
П п		pe	like p in pet		перец	
	Play					Play
Р р		er	like r in rock (but rolled)		рыба	
	Play					Play
С с		es	like s in sun		стул	
	Play					Play
Т т		te	like t in table		торт	
	Play					Play

У у	 Play	oo	like oo in moon		удочка	 Play
Ф ф	 Play	ef	like f in food		фрукты	 Play
Х х	 Play	kha	like ch in Scottish loch		хвоя	 Play
Ц ц	 Play	tse	like ts in boots	1 2 3	цифры	 Play
Ч ч	 Play	che	like ch in chat		чашка	 Play
Ш ш	 Play	sha	like sh in short		шапка	 Play
Щ щ	 Play	shcha	like sh_ch in fresh_cheese		щётка	 Play
Ъ	 Play	tvordiy znak (hard sign)	has no sound			
Ы	 Play	ih*	like i in ill			
Ь	 Play	myagkiy znak (soft sign)	has no sound			
Э э	 Play	e	like e in end		экран	 Play
Ю ю	 Play	yoo	like u in use		юбка	 Play
Я я	 Play	ya	like ya in yard		яблоко	 Play

* ih - "h" had been added to produce a more open sound, but is not pronounced as an English "h".

More About Russian Alphabet

Cyril and Methodius called their alphabet Glagolitsa, or the Glagolitic alphabet. The name comes from the Old Slavic word glagolŭ, which means 'sound'. The Glagolitic alphabet was used for Slavonic manuscripts for a relatively short period of time (no more than a century) before the development of the Cyrillic. The Cyrillic alphabet was derived from Glagolitic by Cyril's pupils and named after him. Cyrillic letters are different from the Glagolitic ones and have lots in common with the Greek letters.

Until the 17th century, the only written language in Russia was Church Slavonic. Civil Russian language started appearing in writing during the reign of Peter the Great (1672-1725). The dialect of Moscow was used as the basis for written Russian. The new civil alphabet was introduced by Peter the Great himself in order to write civil books, books on science and other texts not related to the church.

Four letters were eliminated from the alphabet in a 1918 language reform. Since 1918 the alphabet remains unchanged.

Russian keyboard layout

Ё	!	"	№	;	%	:	?	*	()	-	+	← Backspace
Tab ↔	Й	Ц	У	К	Е	Н	Г	Ш	Щ	З	Х	Ъ	Enter ↵
Caps Lock ↑	Ф	Ы	В	А	П	Р	О	Л	Д	Ж	Э	/	\
Shift ↑		Я	Ч	С	М	И	Т	Ь	Б	Ю	,	.	Shift ↑
Ctrl	Win Key	Alt							Alt	Win Key	Menu	Ctrl	

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