ROMANIZATION OF RUSSIAN

BGN/PCGN 1947 System

The BGN/PCGN system for Russian was adopted by the BGN in 1944 and by the PCGN in 1947 for use in romanizing names written in the Russian Cyrillic alphabet.

	Russian				Russian Unicode	Romanization		Russian				Russian Unicode	Romanization
1	А	а	*А*	*а*	0410; 0430	a	18	Р	р	*Р*	*р*	0420; 0440	r
2	Б	б	*Б*	*б*	0411; 0431	b	19	С	с	*С*	*с*	0421; 0441	s
3	В	в	*В*	*в*	0412; 0432	v	20	Т	т	*Т*	*т*	0422; 0442	t
4	Г	г	*Г*	*г*	0413; 0433	g	21	У	у	*У*	*у*	0423; 0443	u
5	Д	д	*Д*	*д*	0414; 0434	d	22	Ф	ф	*Ф*	*ф*	0424; 0444	f
6	Е	е	*Е*	*е*	0415; 0435	e, ye[Note 1]	23	Х	х	*Х*	*х*	0425; 0445	kh
7	Ё	ё	*Ё*	*ё*	0401; 0451	ë, yë[Note 2]	24	Ц	ц	*Ц*	*ц*	0426; 0446	ts
8	Ж	ж	*Ж*	*ж*	0416; 0436	zh	25	Ч	ч	*Ч*	*ч*	0427; 0447	ch
9	З	з	*З*	*з*	0417; 0437	z	26	Ш	ш	*Ш*	*ш*	0428; 0448	sh
10	И	и	*И*	*и*	0418; 0438	i	27	Щ	щ	*Щ*	*щ*	0429; 0449	shch
11	Й	й	*Й*	*й*	0419; 0439	y	28	Ъ	ъ	*Ъ*	*ъ*	042A; 044A	”
12	К	к	*К*	*к*	041A; 043A	k	29	Ы	ы	*Ы*	*ы*	042B; 044B	y
13	Л	л	*Л*	*л*	041B; 043B	l	30	Ь	ь	*Ь*	*ь*	042C; 044C	’
14	М	м	*М*	*м*	041C; 043C	m	31	Э	э	*Э*	*э*	042D; 044D	e
15	Н	н	*Н*	*н*	041D; 043D	n	32	Ю	ю	*Ю*	*ю*	042E; 044E	yu
16	О	о	*О*	*о*	041E; 043E	o	33	Я	я	*Я*	*я*	042F; 044F	ya
17	П	п	*П*	*п*	041F; 043F	p							

NOTES

1. The character е should be romanized **ye** initially, after the vowel characters а, е, ё, и, о, у, ы, э, ю, and я, and after й, ъ, and ь. In all other instances, it should be romanized **e**.

2. The character ё is not considered a separate character of the Russian alphabet and the dieresis is generally not shown. When the dieresis is shown, the character should be romanized **yё** initially, after the vowel characters а, е, ё, и, о, у, ы, э, ю, and я, and after й, ъ, and ь. In all other instances, it should be romanized **ё**. When the dieresis is not shown, the character may still be romanized in the preceding manner or, alternatively, in accordance with note 1.

3. Unusual Russian character sequences occurring primarily in non-Russian-language names may be romanized as shown below in order to provide differentiation from regularly-occurring digraphs and character sequences.

Russian	Romanization
й before а, у, ы, or э	y·
ы before а, у, ы, or э	y·
ы after any vowel character	·y
э after any consonant character except й	·e
тс	t·s
шч	sh·ch

4. Unicode values are shown with the uppercase Cyrillic character first, followed by the lowercase character.

5. An inventory of letter-diacritic combinations, with their Unicode encoding, in addition to the unmodified letters of the basic Roman script is:

    All apostrophes appearing in romanization are U+2019

Ё (U+00CB)
ё (U+00EB)

6. The Romanization column shows only lowercase forms but, when romanizing, uppercase and lowercase Roman letters as appropriate should be used.