

Appendix A: Spelling Rules

The spelling rules apply throughout the language with exceptions only in exotic foreign words. They account for the grammatical endings to be added to stems that end in velars (г к х) and hushing sounds (ш щ ж ч ц).

For words whose stem ends in one of these letters, do not worry about whether the stem is hard or soft. Rather, always attempt to add the *basic* ending, then apply the spelling rule if necessary.

Never break a spelling rule when adding endings to Russian verbs or nouns!

8-Letter Spelling Rule

After the letters	г к х	ш щ ж ч	ц	do not write -ю, write -y instead do not write -я, write -a instead
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7-Letter Spelling Rule

After the letters	г к х	ш щ ж ч		do not write -ы, write -и instead
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5-Letter Spelling Rule

After the letters		ш щ ж ч	ц	do not write unaccented -o , write -e instead
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USE

We see the spellings rules most often in these situations:

1. The 8-letter spelling rule is used in **и**-conjugation verbs.
2. The 7- and 5-letter spelling rules are used in the declension of modifiers and nouns.