List of all letters according to the official order in the Bulgarian language (first lowercase, then uppercase):

А а

Б б

В в

Г г

Д д

Е е

Ж ж

З з

И и

Й й

К к

Л л

М м

Н н

О о

П п

Р р

С с

Т т

У у

Ф ф

Х х

Ц ц

Ч ч

Ш ш

Щ щ

Ъ ъ

Ь ь (soft sign; it does not correspond to a sound but indicates some changes in pronunciation)

Ю ю

Я я

List of vowels (only lowercase):

а е и о у ъ ю я

List of sonorants (only lowercase):

й л м н р

List of other consonants (i.e., those which are not sonorants; only lowercase):

б в г д ж з к п с т ф х ц ч ш щ

The soft sign is a special sign – it always follows a consonant and it forms one unit with the previous consonant. So, it must be always attached to the previous consonant, it can never stand at the beginning of a syllable.

There are 2 zero-syllable words in Bulgarian: в, с.

Always attach them to the word which follows them.

When counting syllable or word length, ignore soft sign ь (be careful, in some fonts it is quite difficult to distinguish it completely from the Cyrillic в, i.e. from the letter which is v in Latin alphabet. Don’t delete it, just insert some condition to the program (or word/syllable length can be determined as the number of all letters minus the number of soft signs).

Other remarks to syllable length:

One letter (except for the soft sign, see above) corresponds to one phoneme (sound), with the following exceptions:

1. ю, я represent two phonemes if they are at the beginning of a word, or if they follow a vowel (see the list above), or a soft sign; otherwise they represent one phoneme
2. щ represents two phonemes
3. sequences of letters дж, дз represent one phoneme