

## Romanization Cyrillic Script (Slavic Languages)

This section considers Cyrillic romanization only of the Slavic languages: Bulgarian, Belarusian, Macedonian, Russian, Serbian, and Ukrainian. (For the various non-Slavic languages in Cyrillic script, see pages 138-155 of *ALA-LC romanization tables*).

Because the Cyrillic script is romanized *almost, but not quite, the same for all six Slavic languages*, the following two pages present a “unified” romanization of the Cyrillic script. The “standard” romanization is based on the romanization for Russian (or one of the other languages, if Russian does not use the given letter). The last column shows the romanization for languages that are an exception to this standard romanization.

*Note: This table is not meant to replace the tables in ALA-LC romanization tables, but to supplement them. In particular, the notes included are not reproduced here.*

Out of 52 Cyrillic letters, only 12 have romanizations that differ depending on the language. For someone who does not work continually in any one language, however, these exceptions can cause a problem. One needs to pay particular attention to the exceptions when romanizing, in order to avoid wrong romanizations.

Because the romanization differs depending on the language, one needs to know what the language is in order to romanize a Cyrillic-script language properly. Some of the clues that can be used in determining the language are these: place of publication, specific mention on the title page (if the book has been translated into a particular language), unique letters used in a particular language.

Another clue is found in the colophon. Most of the books published in the former Soviet republics carry a colophon with the title given in Russian, or translated into Russian, with the addition “in — language.” This is a direct clue of the language of the book.

**Where to find information:** Book publishers in Russia and associated countries use conventions very similar to those in America: the title page and verso of the title page carry most of the relevant bibliographical information. The verso of the title page often contains CIP information with an extensive note. The only other part of the book to be aware of is the colophon (see preceding paragraph).

# Cyrillic Romanization for Slavic Languages (Unified)

Be	Bu	Ru	Se/Ma	Uk	Roman	Italics	Romanization	Exceptions
x	x	x	x	x	А а	<i>A a</i>	A a	
x	x	x	x	x	Б б	<i>B b</i>	B b	
x	x	x	x	x	В в	<i>V v</i>	V v	
x	x	x	x	x	Г г	<i>G g</i>	G g	Be & Uk (H/h)
			x		Ґ ґ	<i>Ǧ ǧ</i>	Ǧ ǧ	
x				x	Ґ ґ	<i>Ǧ ǧ</i>	G g	
x	x	x	x	x	Д д	<i>D d</i>	D d	
			x		Ђ ђ	<i>Ǻ ǻ</i>	Ǻ ǻ	
x	x	x	x	x	Е е	<i>E e</i>	E e	
				x	Є є	<i>Ě ě</i>	Ě ě	
x		x			Ё ё	<i>Ë ë</i>	Ë ë	Be (Īō/iō)
x	x	x	x	x	Ж ж	<i>Ž ž</i>	Zh zh	Be & Uk (ŽH/zĥ) & Se/Ma (Ž/ž)
x	x	x	x	x	З з	<i>Z z</i>	Z z	
			x		С с	<i>S s</i>	Dz dz	
	x	x	x	x	И и	<i>I i</i>	I i	Uk (Y/y)
x		x		x	І і	<i>Ī ī</i>	Ī ī	Be & Uk (I/i)
				x	Ї ї	<i>İ i</i>	İ i	
x	x	x		x	Й й	<i>Ĳ ĳ</i>	Ĳ ĳ	
			x		Ј ј	<i>J j</i>	J j	
x	x	x	x	x	К к	<i>K k</i>	K k	
			x		Ќ ќ	<i>Ǧ ǧ</i>	Ǧ ǧ	
x	x	x	x	x	Л л	<i>L l</i>	L l	
			x		Љ љ	<i>Lj lj</i>	Lj lj	
x	x	x	x	x	М м	<i>M m</i>	M m	
x	x	x	x	x	Н н	<i>N n</i>	N n	
			x		Њ њ	<i>Nj nj</i>	Nj nj	
x	x	x	x	x	О о	<i>O o</i>	O o	
x	x	x	x	x	П п	<i>P p</i>	P p	
x	x	x	x	x	Р р	<i>R r</i>	R r	
x	x	x	x	x	С с	<i>S s</i>	S s	

Be	Bu	Ru	Se/Ma	Uk	Roman	Italics	Romanization	Exceptions
x	x	x	x	x	Т т	<i>T t</i>	Т т	
			x		Ѣ ѣ	<i>Ė ě</i>	Ć ć	
x	x	x	x	x	У у	<i>U u</i>	U u	
x					Ў ў	<i>Ŭ ŭ</i>	Ŭ ŭ	
x	x	x	x	x	Ф ф	<i>F f</i>	F f	
x	x	x	x	x	Х х	<i>X x</i>	Kh kh	Se/Ma (H/h)
x	x	x	x	x	Ц ц	<i>Ц ц</i>	Ṫ ṣ	Be (Ts/ts) ξ Se/Ma (C/c)
x	x	x	x	x	Ч ч	<i>Ч ч</i>	Ch ch	Se/Ma (Č/č)
			x		Џ џ	<i>Џ џ</i>	Dž dž	
x	x	x	x	x	Ш ш	<i>Ш ш</i>	Sh sh	Se/Ma (Š/š)
x	x	x		x	Щ щ	<i>Щ щ</i>	Shch shch	Bu (Sht/sht)
	x	x			Ъ ъ	<i>Ъ ъ</i>	" "	Bu (Ŭ/ŭ)
x		x			Ы ы	<i>Ы ы</i>	Y y	
x	x	x		x	Ь ь	<i>Ь ь</i>	' '	Bu [disregarded]
	x	x			Ѣ ѣ		Ė ě	
x		x			Э э	<i>Э э</i>	É é	
x	x	x		x	Ю ю	<i>Ю ю</i>	Ī ū	
x	x	x		x	Я я	<i>Я я</i>	Ī ā	
		x			А а		Ē ē	
	x				Ѧ ѧ		Ŭ ŭ	
		x			Ө ө		Ĥ ĥ	
		x			Ѳ ѳ		Ŷ ŷ	

Key to Language abbreviations:

Be: Belarusian

Bu: Bulgarian

Ru: Russian

Se/Ma: Serbian/Macedonian

Uk: Ukrainian