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Аа [a]	Бб [b]	Вв [v]	Гг [g]	Дд [d]	Ее [je]	Ёё [jo]	Жж [zh]	
Зз [z]	Ии [i]	Йй [j] (yoga)	Кк [k]	Лл [l]	Мм [m]	Нн [n]	Оо [o]	
Пп [p]	Р [r]	Сс [s]	Тт [t]	Уу [u]	Фф [f]	Хх [h]	Цц [ts]	
Чч [ch] (chao)	Шш [sh]	Щщ [shch]	Ъ hard sign	Ы like open "y"	Ь soft sign	Ээ [e]	Юю [ju]	Яя [ja]

Russian belongs to the Eastern-Slavonic group of languages included in the Indo-European linguistic family. Today's written script has existed since 1918, but goes back to the original Cyrillic alphabet. It contains 33 letters, of which 21 represent consonant sounds, 6 are vowel sounds and 4 are combinations of "j" and a vowel sound. There is also a soft (Ь) and a hard sign (Ъ), which are used only in combination with a consonant sound. The Cyrillic alphabet was created in the 9th century based on the Greek written language but with additional letters.