

# ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR ADYGHE

## BGN/PCGN 2012 System

The BGN/PCGN system for Adyghe is designed for use in romanizing names written in the Adyghe Cyrillic alphabet. Adyghe, of the north-western Caucasian language family, is principally spoken in Russia's republic of Adygeya and has been written in a modified Cyrillic script since 1938. Also known as West Circassian<sup>1</sup>, Adyghe is, as other languages of this family, notable for its rich density of consonant phonemes and corresponding paucity of vowels. Given the language's phonological complexity, and in line with other BGN/PCGN Romanization Systems for north-western Caucasian languages, Adyghe letters have been addressed in the romanizations below as per their articulation, rather than necessarily reflecting their orthography or the BGN/PCGN romanization of Russian Cyrillic: specifically glottalised consonants have been marked with an apostrophe, labialized consonants with /w/, and retroflex consonants with an underbar. Adyghe contains a number of phonemes not part of the Kabardian alphabet, but those phonemes that are shared have been represented in romanization as per the BGN/PCGN Kabardian Romanization System.

	Adyghe				Romanization		Adyghe				Romanization
1	А	а	А	а	a	16	Жъ	жъ	Жъ	жъ	<u>zh</u>
2	Б	б	Б	б	b	17	Жъу	жъу	Жъу	жъу	<u>zhw</u>
3	В	в	В	в	v	18	З	з	З	з	z
4	Г	г	Г	г	g	19	И	и	И	и	i
5	Гу	гу	Гу	гу	gw	20	Й	й	Й	й	y
6	Гъ	гъ	Гъ	гъ	gh	21	К	к	К	к	k
7	Гъу	гъу	Гъу	гъу	ghw	22	Ку	ку	Ку	ку	kw
8	Д	д	Д	д	d	23	КІ	кІ	КІ	кІ	k'
9	Дж	дж	Дж	дж	j	24	КІу	кІу	КІу	кІу	kw'
10	Дз	дз	Дз	дз	dz	25	Къ	къ	Къ	къ	q'
11	Дзу	дзу	Дзу	дзу	dzw	26	Къу	къу	Къу	къу	qw'
12	Е	е	Е	е	e	27	Л	л	Л	л	l
13	Ё	ё	Ё	ё	ë	28	ЛІ	лІ	ЛІ	лІ	l'
14	Ж	ж	Ж	ж	zh	29	Лъ	лъ	Лъ	лъ	lh
15	Жъ	жъ	Жъ	жъ	ž	30	М	м	М	м	m

<sup>1</sup> East Circassian, or Kabardian, though very similar, is sufficiently different to be regarded a separate language.

	Adyghe				Romanization		Adyghe				Romanization
31	Н	н	<i>H</i>	<i>h</i>	n	50	Ц	ц	<i>Ц</i>	<i>ц</i>	ts'
32	О	о	<i>O</i>	<i>o</i>	o	51	Цу	цу	<i>Цу</i>	<i>цу</i>	tsw
33	П	п	<i>P</i>	<i>p</i>	p	52	Ч	ч	<i>Ч</i>	<i>ч</i>	ch
34	П	п	<i>PI</i>	<i>nI</i>	p'	53	Ч	ч	<i>ЧИ</i>	<i>чи</i>	ch'
35	П	п	<i>Py</i>	<i>ny</i>	pw'	54	Ч	ч	<i>Чь</i>	<i>чь</i>	č
36	Р	р	<i>R</i>	<i>r</i>	r	55	Ш	ш	<i>Ш</i>	<i>ш</i>	sh
37	С	с	<i>C</i>	<i>c</i>	s	56	Ш	ш	<i>ШИ</i>	<i>ши</i>	sh'
38	Т	т	<i>T</i>	<i>m</i>	t	57	Ш	ш	<i>Шу</i>	<i>шу</i>	shw'
39	Т	т	<i>TI</i>	<i>mI</i>	t'	58	Ш	ш	<i>Шь</i>	<i>шь</i>	<u>sh</u>
40	Т	т	<i>Ty</i>	<i>my</i>	tw'	59	Ш	ш	<i>Шуь</i>	<i>шуь</i>	<u>shw</u>
41	У	у	<i>U</i>	<i>y</i>	w, u <sup>Note 1</sup>	60	Щ	щ	<i>Щ</i>	<i>щ</i>	ś
42	Ф	ф	<i>F</i>	<i>φ</i>	f	61	Ъ	ъ	<i>Ъ</i>	<i>ь</i>	» Note 2
43	Ф	ф	<i>FI</i>	<i>φI</i>	f'	62	Ы	ы	<i>Ы</i>	<i>ы</i>	y <sup>Note 2</sup>
44	Х	х	<i>X</i>	<i>x</i>	kh	63	Ь	ь	<i>Ь</i>	<i>ь</i>	» Note 2
45	Х	х	<i>Xy</i>	<i>xy</i>	khw	64	Э	э	<i>Э</i>	<i>э</i>	ä
46	Х	х	<i>Xь</i>	<i>xь</i>	x	65	Ю	ю	<i>Ю</i>	<i>ю</i>	yu
47	Х	х	<i>Xуь</i>	<i>xуь</i>	xw	66	Я	я	<i>Я</i>	<i>я</i>	ya
48	Х	х	<i>Xь</i>	<i>xь</i>	ħ	67	І	і	<i>І</i>	<i>І</i>	» Note 3
49	Ц	ц	<i>Ц</i>	<i>ц</i>	ts	68	І	і	<i>Іь</i>	<i>іь</i>	» <sup>Note 3</sup>

#### NOTES

1. У should be romanized as /w/ or /u/ according to context: /w/ should be used word-initially and before vowels, and /u/ used elsewhere, except as in combinations occurring elsewhere in the table above.
2. The characters Ё, Ъ, Ы & Ь (except as they occur in character combinations addressed elsewhere in the table) appear only in Russian loan words, and are thus romanized in the same style as in the BGN/PCGN Romanization System for Russian.
3. Except in character combinations as occurring elsewhere in the table above.