

ROMANIZATION OF ARMENIAN

BGN/PCGN 1981 System

The BGN/PCGN system for Armenian was designed for use in romanizing names written in the Armenian alphabet. The Roman letters and letter combinations shown as equivalents to the Armenian characters reflect the eastern variety of Armenian, i.e. the language spoken in the Republic of Armenia.

	Armenian		Armenian Unicode value	Romanization		Armenian		Armenian Unicode value	Romanization
1.	Ա	ա	0531; 0561	a	21.	ԅ	յ	0545; 0575	y
2.	Բ	բ	0532; 0562	b	22.	Ն	ն	0546; 0576	n
3.	Գ	գ	0533; 0563	g	23.	Շ	շ	0547; 0577	sh
4.	Դ	դ	0534; 0564	d	24.	Ո	ո	0548; 0578	o/vo ²
5.	Ե	ե	0535; 0565	e/ye ¹	25.	Չ	չ	0549; 0579	ch'
6.	Զ	զ	0536; 0566	z	26.	Պ	պ	054A; 057A	p
7.	Է	է	0537; 0567	e	27.	Ջ	ջ	054B; 057B	j
8.	Ը	ը	0538; 0568	y	28.	Ր	ր	054C; 057C	rr
9.	Թ	թ	0539; 0569	t'	29.	Ս	ս	054D; 057D	s
10	Ժ	ժ	053A; 056A	zh	30.	Վ	վ	054E; 057E	v
11	Ի	ի	053B; 056B	i	31.	Տ	տ	054F; 057F	t
12	Լ	լ	053C; 056C	l	32.	Ր	ր	0550; 0580	r
13	Խ	խ	053D; 056D	kh	33.	Ց	ց	0551; 0581	ts'
14	Ծ	ծ	053E; 056E	ts	34.	ՈՒ, Ու	ու	0548+0552; 0578+0582	u
15	Կ	կ	053F; 056F	k	35.	Փ	փ	0553; 0583	p'
16	Հ	հ	0540; 0570	h	36.	Ք	ք	0554; 0584	k'
17	Ձ	ձ	0541; 0571	dz	37.	ԵՎՅ	եւ, լ ⁴	0535+054E; 0565+0582	ev / yev ⁵
18	Ղ	ղ	0542; 0572	gh	38.	Օ	օ	0555; 0585	o
19	Ճ	ճ	0543; 0573	ch	39.	Ֆ	ֆ	0556; 0586	f
20	Մ	մ	0544; 0574	m					

NOTES

1. The character է should be romanized **ye** initially and after the vowel characters ա, ե, է, ը, ի, ո, ու and օ. In all other instances, it should be romanized **e**.
2. The character ն should be romanized **vo** initially except in the word նվ, which should be romanized **ov**. In all other instances, it should be romanized **o**.
3. In Soviet-era sources this upper-case digraph character is found as Եի (Unicode encoding 0535+056B).
4. This lower-case character may be seen either in digraph form as էլ (Unicode encoding 0565+0582) or in single character form as լ (Unicode encoding 0587).
5. The characters ԵՎ, էլ and լ should be romanized **yev** initially, in isolation, and after the vowel characters ա, ե, է, ը, ի, ո, ու, and օ. In all other instances these characters should be romanized **ev**.
6. All apostrophes appearing in Armenian romanization are encoded Unicode 2019.
7. The Romanization column shows only lowercase forms but, when romanizing, uppercase and lowercase Roman letters as appropriate should be used.