

# UKRAINIAN ALPHABET

## Українська абетка

**Аа Бб Вв Гг Ґґ Дд Ее**  
**Єє Жж Зз Ии Іі Її Йй**  
**Кк Лл Мм Нн Оо Пп Рр**  
**Сс Тт Уу Фф Хх Цц Чч**  
**Шш Щщ ь (м'який знак) Юю Яя**

There are 22 consonants, 6 hard vowels, 4 soft vowels, and 1 soft sign.

# HOW TO READ THE UKRAINIAN ALPHABET

True friends (written the same as in Latin alphabet and have close pronunciation):

**Aa /a:/** – а́рка (arch) – like in bar.



The stressed A is slightly longer than unstressed.

**I /i:/** – сік (juice) – like in meet.



**Ee /e/** – не́бо (sky) – like in ten.



**Oo /o:/** – сон (dream) – like in port.



**Kk /k/** – кіт (cat) – like in key.





**Тт /t/** – так (yes), тато (dad) – like in tart.



It is pronounced with less air than the English one.

**Мм /m/** – ма́ти/ма́ма (mother) – like in mother.



**М and Т** is soft when it is before  
**ь, я, ю, є, і.**

Tricky friends (look like ones in the Latin alphabet, but they are different):

**Вв /v/** – во́ля [VOLIA] (freedom) – like in voice.



**Уу /u:/** – уро́к (lesson) – like in moon.



**Рр /r/** – рука́ (hand) – like in roof.

It is a rolled r.



**Р** is soft before **і, ъ, я, ю.**

**Сс /s/** – сад (garden) – like in small.

**С** is soft before **ь, я, ю, є, і.**



**Хх /kh/** – Хáрків (Kharkiv) – like in Loch Ness.



**Нн /n/** – нул<sup>ь</sup> (zero) like in nose.

**Л- л Л'- лЬ**

**Н** is soft before **ь, я, ю, є, і.**

**0**

**Ь** – soft sign, doesn't have any sound, makes the previous consonant soft.

**Used in words:** т<sup>и</sup>нь (tin' – shadow), к<sup>и</sup>нь (kin' – horse) ш<sup>и</sup>сть (shist' – six).





New friends (there are no such letters  
in the Latin alphabet):

**Бб /b/** – баба (granny) – like in book.



**Гг /h/** – гуси [husy] (geese) – like in inhat

**Гг /g/** – гáнок (porch) – like in get.



**New friends (there are no such letters in the Latin alphabet):**

**Дд /d/** – дідо (grandpa) – like in dot.

Д is soft before ь, я, ю, є, і.



**Жж /zh/** – жук (bug) – like in pleasure.



New friends (there are no such letters in the Latin alphabet):

**Зз /z/** – зуб (tooth) – like in zoo.

З is soft before ь, я, ю, є, і.



**Ии /i, y/** – син [syn] (son) – like in bit, little.



**New friends (there are no such letters in the Latin alphabet):**

**Йй /j/** – гай [haj] (groove) – like in yes.    hovoryty



**Лл /l/** – ла́мпа (lamp) – like in lamp.



**Л** is soft before **ь, я, ю, є, і**.

New friends (there are no such letters in the Latin alphabet):

**Ππ /p/** – парк (park) – like in park.



**Φφ /f/** – φότο (photo) – like in fine.



**New friends (there are no such letters in the Latin alphabet):**

**Цц /ts/** – цап (tsap) – like in tsunami.

Ц is soft before ь, я, ю, є, і.



**Чч /ch/** – час (time) – like in chair.



New friends (there are no such letters in the Latin alphabet):

**Шш /sh/** – шум (noise) – like in shine.

Щ is soft before ь, я, ю, є, і.

**Ш**ишка  
[shyshka]



**Щщ /ш+ч/ /shch/** – дощ [doshch] (rain) – like in rash choice.

