

## ROMANIZATION OF OSSETIAN

### BGN/PCGN 2009 System

The BGN/PCGN system for Ossetian is designed for use in romanizing names written in the Ossetian Cyrillic alphabet. Ossetian is a member of the north-eastern Iranian language group and has over half a million speakers. It has principally been written in a modified Cyrillic alphabet though a Roman alphabet was used between 1923 and 1938. The BGN/PCGN Romanization System is derived from the correspondences between that Roman alphabet and the Cyrillic alphabet used for Ossetian today, with modifications to suit an English-language user.

	Ossetian	Ossetian italics/ handwriting	Ossetian Unicode	Romanization
1	А а	<i>А а</i>	0410; 0430	a
2	Æ æ	<i>Æ æ</i>	04D4; 04D5	æ
3	Б б	<i>Б б</i>	0411; 0431	b
4	В в	<i>В в</i>	0412; 0432	v
5	Г г	<i>Г г</i>	0413; 0433	g
6	Гъ гъ	<i>Гъ гъ</i>	0413+044A; 0433+044A	gh <sup>1</sup>
7	Д д	<i>Д д</i>	0414; 0434	d
8	Дж дж	<i>Дж дж</i>	0414+0436; 0434+0436	j <sup>2</sup>
9	Дз дз	<i>Дз дз</i>	0414+0437; 0434+0437	dz
10	Е е	<i>Е е</i>	0415; 0435	e
11	Ё ё	<i>Ё ё</i>	0401; 0451	ë <sup>Note 1</sup>
12	Ж ж	<i>Ж ж</i>	0416; 0436	zh <sup>Note 1</sup>
13	З з	<i>З з</i>	0417; 0437	z
14	И и	<i>И и</i>	0418; 0438	i
15	Й й	<i>Й й</i>	0419; 0439	y <sup>3</sup>
16	К к	<i>К к</i>	041A; 043A	k

<sup>1</sup> Formerly /h/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

<sup>2</sup> Formerly /dž/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

<sup>3</sup> Formerly /j/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

	Ossetian	Ossetian italics/ handwriting	Ossetian Unicode	Romanization
17	Къ къ	<i>Къ къ</i>	041A+044A; 043A+044A	k' <sup>4</sup>
18	Л л	<i>Л л</i>	041B; 043B	l
19	М м	<i>М м</i>	041C; 043C	m
20	Н н	<i>Н н</i>	041D; 043D	n
21	О о	<i>О о</i>	041E; 043E	o
22	П п	<i>П п</i>	041F; 043F	p
23	Пъ пъ	<i>Пъ пъ</i>	041F+044A; 043F+044A	p' <sup>5</sup>
24	Р р	<i>Р р</i>	0420; 0440	r
25	С с	<i>С с</i>	0421; 0441	s
26	Т т	<i>Т т</i>	0422; 0442	t
27	Тъ тъ	<i>Тъ тъ</i>	0422+044A; 0442+044A	t' <sup>6</sup>
28	У у	<i>У у</i>	0423; 0443	u, w <sup>Note 2</sup>
29	Ф ф	<i>Ф ф</i>	0424; 0444	f
30	Х х	<i>Х х</i>	0425; 0445	kh <sup>7</sup>
31	Хъ хъ	<i>Хъ хъ</i>	0425+044A; 0445+044A	q
32	Ц ц	<i>Ц ц</i>	0426; 0446	ts <sup>8</sup>
33	Цъ цъ	<i>Цъ цъ</i>	0426+044A; 0446+044A	ts' <sup>9</sup>
34	Ч ч	<i>Ч ч</i>	0427; 0447	ch <sup>10</sup>
35	Чъ чъ	<i>Чъ чъ</i>	0427+044A; 0447+044A	ch' <sup>11</sup>
36	Ш ш	<i>Ш ш</i>	0428; 0448	sh <sup>Note 1</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Formerly /kh/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

<sup>5</sup> Formerly /ph/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

<sup>6</sup> Formerly /th/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

<sup>7</sup> Formerly /x/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

<sup>8</sup> Formerly /c/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

<sup>9</sup> Formerly /ch/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

<sup>10</sup> Formerly /č/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

<sup>11</sup> Formerly /čh/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

	Ossetian	Ossetian italics/ handwriting	Ossetian Unicode	Romanization
37	Щ щ	<i>Щ щ</i>	0429; 0449	shch <sup>Note 1</sup>
38	Ъ ъ	<i>Ъ ъ</i>	042A; 044A	” Notes 1 & 3
39	Ы ы	<i>Ы ы</i>	042B; 044B	y
40	Ь ь	<i>Ь ь</i>	042C; 044C	’ <sup>Note 1</sup>
41	Э э	<i>Э э</i>	042D; 044D	e <sup>Note 1</sup>
42	Ю ю	<i>Ю ю</i>	042E; 044E	yu <sup>Note 1</sup>
43	Я я	<i>Я я</i>	042F; 044F	ya <sup>Note 1</sup>

### NOTES

1. The characters ё, ж, ш, щ, ъ, ь, э, ю, я appear only in loan words and their romanizations in the Ossetian System are therefore as they appear in the BGN/PCGN Romanization System for Russian Cyrillic.
2. Y has several different functions:
  - In combination with another vowel (either preceding or following) Y is a ‘semi-vowel’ and should be romanized ‘w’ [e.g. *Дзay* → *Dzaw* (=Java)]
  - Y also serves to labialize the consonants Г, Гь, К, Кь, Х and Хь and should also be romanized ‘w’ after each of these [e.g. *Гуырѡзы* → *Gwyrɔzy* (=Georgia)]
  - elsewhere Y should be romanized ‘u’ [e.g. *Республикæ* → *Respublikæ* (=Republic)].
3. Ъ should be represented with ”, except as it occurs in the digraph combinations гъ, къ, пъ, тъ, хъ or чъ representing the glottal consonants as shown separately in the table.
4. An inventory of letter-diacritic combinations, with their Unicode encoding, in addition to the unmodified letters of the basic Roman script is:

All apostrophes appearing in romanization are U+2019

Æ (U+00C6)	æ (U+00E6)
Ë (U+00CB)	ë (U+00EB)

5. The Roman-script columns show only lowercase forms but, when applying the table, uppercase and lowercase Roman letters as appropriate should be used.