

## ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR ABKHAZ

### BGN/PCGN 2011 System

The BGN/PCGN system for Abkhaz is designed for use in romanizing names written in the Abkhaz Cyrillic alphabet. Abkhaz is a consonant-rich north-western Caucasian language and has been written in a modified Cyrillic script since 1954. Given the language's phonological complexity, Abkhaz 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. Certain characters are written followed by *ь* or *ә*, usually denoting palatalization and denoting labialization respectively, and these digraphs are also included in the tabulation below, the palatal consonants being marked with /y/ in the romanization (note that characters 14, 57 and 62 are not palatal) and labialized consonants being marked with /w/. Retroflex consonants are marked with an underline in the romanization whilst the apostrophe in the romanizations below denotes the glottal form of the consonants.

	Abkhaz				Romanization		Abkhaz				Romanization
1	А	а	<i>А</i>	<i>а</i>	a	13	Ж	ж	<i>Ж</i>	<i>ж</i>	<u>zh</u>
2	Б	б	<i>Б</i>	<i>б</i>	b	14	Жь	жь	<i>Жь</i>	<i>жь</i>	zh
3	В	в	<i>В</i>	<i>в</i>	v	15	Жә	жә	<i>Жә</i>	<i>жә</i>	zhw
4	Г	г	<i>Г</i>	<i>г</i>	g	16	З	з	<i>З</i>	<i>з</i>	z
5	Гь	гь	<i>Гь</i>	<i>гь</i>	gy	17	Зь	зь	<i>Зь</i>	<i>зь</i>	dz
6	Гә	гә	<i>Гә</i>	<i>гә</i>	gw	18	Зә	зә	<i>Зә</i>	<i>зә</i>	dzw
7	Гҕ	гҕ	<i>Гҕ</i>	<i>гҕ</i>	gh	19	И	и	<i>И</i>	<i>и</i>	i
8	Гҕь	гҕь	<i>Гҕь</i>	<i>гҕь</i>	ghy	20	К	к	<i>К</i>	<i>к</i>	k'
9	Гҕә	гҕә	<i>Гҕә</i>	<i>гҕә</i>	ghw	21	Кь	кь	<i>Кь</i>	<i>кь</i>	ky'
10	Д	д	<i>Д</i>	<i>д</i>	d	22	Кә	кә	<i>Кә</i>	<i>кә</i>	kw'
11	Дә	дә	<i>Дә</i>	<i>дә</i>	dw	23	Қ	қ	<i>Қ</i>	<i>қ</i>	k
12	Е	е	<i>Е</i>	<i>е</i>	e	24	Қь	қь	<i>Қь</i>	<i>қь</i>	ky

	Abkhaz				Romanization		Abkhaz				Romanization
25	Қә	қә	Қә	қә	kw	44	Хь	хь	Хь	хь	xy
26	К	к	К	к	q'	45	Хә	хә	Хә	хә	xw
27	Кь	кь	Кь	кь	qy'	46	Х	х	Х	х	h
28	Қә	қә	Қә	қә	qw'	47	Хә	хә	Хә	хә	hw
29	Л	л	Л	л	l	48	Ц	ц	Ц	ц	ts
30	М	м	М	м	m	49	Цә	цә	Цә	цә	tsw
31	Н	н	Н	н	n	50	Ц	ц	Ц	ц	ts'
32	О	о	О	о	o	51	Цә	цә	Цә	цә	tsw'
33	П	п	П	п	p'	52	Ч	ч	Ч	ч	ch
34	Пь	пь	Пь	пь	p	53	Ч	ч	Ч	ч	ch'
35	Р	р	Р	р	r	54	Ч	ч	Ч	ч	<u>ch</u>
36	С	с	С	с	s	55	Ч	ч	Ч	ч	<u>ch'</u>
37	Т	т	Т	т	t'	56	Ш	ш	Ш	ш	<u>sh</u>
38	Тә	тә	Тә	тә	tw'	57	Шь	шь	Шь	шь	sh
39	Т	т	Т	т	t	58	Шә	шә	Шә	шә	shw
40	Тә	тә	Тә	тә	tw	59	Ы	ы	Ы	ы	ÿ
41	У	у	У	у	u	60	Ф	ф	Ф	ф	yw
42	Ф	ф	Ф	ф	f	61	Ц	ц	Ц	ц	j
43	Х	х	Х	х	x	62	Ць	ць	Ць	ць	j

#### NOTES

1. In order to retain reversibility, where two consonant characters appear together and the resulting romanization is equivalent to a Roman-script digraph occurring in the system (i.e. gh, zh, dz, sh or ts), a medial dot may be employed between the Roman-script consonants (e.g. g·h) in order to distinguish these from the Roman-script digraphs.
2. 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

<u>ZH</u> (U+005A+0048+035F)	<u>zh</u> (U+007A+0068+035F)
<u>CH</u> (U+0043+0048+035F)	<u>ch</u> (U+0063+0068+035F)
<u>SH</u> (U+0053+0048+035F)	<u>sh</u> (U+0073+0068+035F)
ÿ (U+0178)	ÿ (U+00FF)
ƒ (U+004A+0335)	ƒ (U+006A+0335)