RU

LANGUAGE COURSE

Russian Basic Conversation 1

12 Chapters

Philip Osztromok

Generated with Claude

RUSSIAN BASIC CONVERSATION 1

Contents

Chapter 1	Greetings & Goodbyes	2
Chapter 2	Introducing Yourself	11
Chapter 3	Numbers & Contact Details	21
Chapter 4	Where You're From	33
Chapter 5	Family	43
Chapter 6	Jobs	53
Chapter 7	Days & Time	63
Chapter 8	Café	75
Chapter 9	Shopping	85
Chapter 10	Directions	95
Chapter 11	Hotel	106
Chapter 12	Getting Around	116

Russian Basic Conversation 1 🏆

Chapter 1 · Greetings & Goodbyes

👋 Greetings & Goodbyes — Приветствия и прощания

*Welcome to your first Russian conversation lesson. By the end of this chapter you will be able to greet people at any time of day, thank them, apologise, ask how they are and say goodbye, choosing between the formal **вы** and the informal **ты**. You can already read Cyrillic from Russian Alphabet 1 and Russian Alphabet 2, so the Russian is the lesson text. Every Russian word carries a **stress mark** (for example спаси́бо) and every dialog line has a **respelling beneath it**, with the stressed syllable in CAPITALS. The stress marks are for learning: ordinary Russian text does not print them (except on ё, which is always stressed).*

① Good Morning (formal) — Доброе утро

A:

До́брое у́тро, А́нна Ива́новна!

DOH-brah-yeh OO-trah, AHN-nah ee-VAH-nahv-nah!

Good morning, Anna Ivanovna!

B:

До́брое у́тро! Как у вас дела́?

DOH-brah-yeh OO-trah! KAHK oo VAHS dee-LAH?

Good morning! How are things with you?

A:

Хорошо́, спаси́бо. А у вас?

khah-rah-SHOH, spah-SEE-bah. AH oo VAHS?

Fine, thank you. And you?

B:

То́же хорошо́, спаси́бо.

TOH-zheh khah-rah-SHOH, spah-SEE-bah.

Also fine, thank you.

② Meeting a Friend (informal) — Привет!

A:

Приве́т, Ди́ма!

pree-VYET, DEE-mah!

Hi, Dima!

B:

Приве́т, Ле́на! Как дела́?

pree-VYET, LYEH-nah! KAHK dee-LAH?

Hi, Lena! How are things?

A:

Норма́льно. А у тебя́?

nahr-MAHL-nah. AH oo tee-BYAH?

OK. And with you?

B:

То́же непло́хо.

TOH-zheh nee-PLOH-khah.

Not bad either.

③ Evening at the Hotel — Добрый вечер

A:

До́брый ве́чер!

DOH-brih VYEH-chehr!

Good evening! (Philip, arriving)

B:

До́брый ве́чер! Добро́ пожа́ловать!

DOH-brih VYEH-chehr! dah-BROH pah-ZHAH-lah-vaht!

Good evening! Welcome!

A:

Большо́е спаси́бо!

bahl-SHOH-yeh spah-SEE-bah!

Thank you very much!

B:

Пожа́луйста!

pah-ZHAH-loo-stah!

You're welcome!

④ Good Night — Спокойной ночи

A:

Споко́йной но́чи!

spah-KOY-nay NOH-chee!

Good night!

B:

Споко́йной но́чи! Прия́тных снов!

spah-KOY-nay NOH-chee! pree-YAHT-nihkh SNOF!

Good night! Sweet dreams!

⑤ Excuse Me — Извините

A:

Извини́те!

eez-vee-NEE-tyeh!

Excuse me!

B:

Ничего́ стра́шного.

nee-chee-VOH STRAHSH-nah-vah.

No problem. (literally: nothing terrible)

A:

Прости́те, пожа́луйста.

prah-STEE-tyeh, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah.

Sorry, please.

⑥ Saying Goodbye — До свидания

A:

До свида́ния!

dah svee-DAH-nee-yah!

Goodbye! (formal)

B:

До свида́ния! Всего́ хоро́шего!

dah svee-DAH-nee-yah! fsee-VOH khah-ROH-shee-vah!

Goodbye! All the best!

A:

Пока́, Ди́ма! До за́втра!

pah-KAH, DEE-mah! dah ZAHF-trah!

B:

Всё в поря́дке.

FSYOH f pah-RYAHT-kyeh.

It's all fine.

Bye, Dima! See you tomorrow! (informal)

B:

Пока́!

pah-KAH!

Bye!

🔑 Key Phrases — Ключевые фразы

*Russian has two ways of saying "you". With **friends, family, children and people your age** you use the informal **ты**. With **strangers, shop and hotel staff, officials and older people** you use the formal **вы**. In this chapter every phrase is given in both.*

SITUATION	FORMAL (ВЫ)	INFORMAL (ТЫ)
Hello	**Здра́вствуйте!** *ZDRAH-stvooy-tyeh*	**Приве́т!** *pree-VYET*
Good morning	**До́брое у́тро!** *DOH-brah-yeh OO-trah*	**До́брое у́тро!** *DOH-brah-yeh OO-trah*
Good afternoon	**До́брый день!** *DOH-brih DYEN*	**Приве́т!** *pree-VYET*
Good evening	**До́брый ве́чер!** *DOH-brih VYEH-chehr*	**Приве́т!** *pree-VYET*
Good night	**Споко́йной но́чи!** *spah-KOY-nay NOH-chee*	**Споко́йной но́чи!** *spah-KOY-nay NOH-chee*
Goodbye	**До свида́ния!** *dah svee-DAH-nee-yah*	**Пока́!** *pah-KAH*
How are you?	**Как у вас дела́?** *KAHK oo VAHS dee-LAH*	**Как у тебя́ дела́?** *KAHK oo tee-BYAH dee-LAH*
Thank you	**Большо́е спаси́бо!** *bahl-SHOH-yeh spah-SEE-bah*	**Спаси́бо!** *spah-SEE-bah*

SITUATION	FORMAL (ВЫ)	INFORMAL (ТЫ)
Please / You're welcome	**Пожа́луйста!** *pah-ZHAH-loo-stah*	**Пожа́луйста!** *pah-ZHAH-loo-stah*
Excuse me	**Извини́те!** *eez-vee-NEE-tyeh*	**Извини́!** *eez-vee-NEE*
Sorry	**Прости́те!** *prah-STEE-tyeh*	**Прости́!** *prah-STEE*

Formal or Informal? A Simple Rule

If you would call the person by their first name in English, use **ты** (*Приве́т!*, *Как у тебя́ дела́?*). If you would say "Mr/Mrs" or "sir/madam", use **вы** (*Здра́вствуйте!*, *Как у вас дела́?*). When in doubt, start with **вы**: nobody will mind, and the other person will tell you if they would like to move to **ты**. Note that **вы** is also the plural, so you use it for a group of friends too.

🕐 Which Greeting When — Когда что говорить

WHEN	SAY	NOTES
Morning	**До́брое у́тро!** *DOH-brah-yeh OO-trah*	until around midday
Daytime	**До́брый день!** *DOH-brih DYEN*	afternoon and early evening
Evening	**До́брый ве́чер!** *DOH-brih VYEH-chehr*	from the early evening
Any time	**Здра́вствуйте!** *ZDRAH-stvooy-tyeh*	the all-purpose formal hello, morning, noon or night
Going to bed	**Споко́йной но́чи!** *spah-KOY-nay NOH-chee*	said as you say goodbye for the night

Why До́брое but До́брый?

До́брое у́тро, До́брый день, До́брый ве́чер: the word *до́брый* ("good") changes its ending to match the **gender** of the noun. *У́тро* is neuter, so it is *до́брое*; *день* and *ве́чер* are masculine, so it is *до́брый*. Russian nouns are masculine, feminine or neuter, and this course shows the gender of every noun in the vocabulary tables.

🎩 How to Address People — Как обращаться

*Russian has no everyday equivalent of "Mr" or "Mrs". With **вы** you normally use a person's **first name and patronymic** (a middle name made from the father's name, such as А́нна Ива́новна; Chapter 2 explains it). With **ты** you use the first name, very often in its **short form**.*

FULL NAME	SAY IT	SHORT FORM	SAY IT	NOTE
Дми́трий	*DMEE-tree*	Ди́ма	*DEE-mah*	Dmitry → Dima
Еле́на	*yee-LYEH-nah*	Ле́на	*LYEH-nah*	Elena → Lena
Алекса́ндр	*ah-lee-KSAHNDR*	Са́ша	*SAH-shah*	Alexander → Sasha
А́нна	*AHN-nah*	А́ня	*AH-nyah*	Anna → Anya
Мари́я	*mah-REE-yah*	Ма́ша	*MAH-shah*	Maria → Masha
Ива́н	*ee-VAHN*	Ва́ня	*VAH-nyah*	Ivan → Vanya

🔤 Three Verbs — Глаголы

*Russian verbs change their ending for each person. Here is the present tense of three useful verbs. Понима́ть follows the most common pattern (endings -ю, -ешь, -ет, -ем, -ете, -ют); говори́ть and благодари́ть follow the second pattern (-ю, -ишь, -ит, -им, -ите, -ят). Notice that **there is no separate word for "am / is / are"**, which is the surprise of Chapter 2.*

	ГОВОРИ́ТЬ (TO SPEAK, TO SAY)	ПОНИМА́ТЬ (TO UNDERSTAND)	БЛАГОДАРИ́ТЬ (TO THANK)
я (I) *YAH*	говорю́ *gah-vah-RYOO*	понима́ю *pah-nee-MAH-yoo*	благодарю́ *blah-gah-dah-RYOO*
ты (you, informal) *TIH*	говори́шь *gah-vah-REESH*	понима́ешь *pah-nee-MAH-yihsh*	благодари́шь *blah-gah-dah-REESH*
он, она́ (he, she) *OHN, ah-NAH*	говори́т *gah-vah-REET*	понима́ет *pah-nee-MAH-yiht*	благодари́т *blah-gah-dah-REET*
мы (we) *MIH*	говори́м *gah-vah-REEM*	понима́ем *pah-nee-MAH-yihm*	благодари́м *blah-gah-dah-REEM*
вы (you, formal or plural) *VIH*	говори́те *gah-vah-REE-tyeh*	понима́ете *pah-nee-MAH-yih-tyeh*	благодари́те *blah-gah-dah-REE-tyeh*
они́ (they) *ah-NEE*	говоря́т *gah-vah-RYAHT*	понима́ют *pah-nee-MAH-yoot*	благодаря́т *blah-gah-dah-RYAHT*

Как у вас дела́? — A Literal Look

Как у вас дела́? is literally "How at you things?". Russian often says "at you (there are) things" where English says "you have". You will meet this pattern again in Chapter 5 (*У меня́ есть* ..., "I have ..."). The usual answers, from best to worst: *Отли́чно* (excellent), *Хорошо́* (good), *Норма́льно* (OK), *Непло́хо* (not bad), *Так себе́* (so-so).

📖 Vocabulary — Словарь

20 key words. Read the Russian first, then check the respelling (CAPITALS = the stressed syllable). Gender: m = masculine, f = feminine, n = neuter, pl = plural.

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	приве́т	*pree-VYET*	hi (informal)	phrase

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
2	**здра́вствуйте**	*ZDRAH-stvooy-tyeh*	hello (formal)	phrase
3	**у́тро**	*OO-trah*	morning	noun · n
4	**день**	*DYEN*	day	noun · m
5	**ве́чер**	*VYEH-chehr*	evening	noun · m
6	**ночь**	*NOHCH*	night	noun · f
7	**до́брый**	*DOH-brih*	good, kind	adj
8	**хорошо́**	*khah-rah-SHOH*	well, fine	adv
9	**спаси́бо**	*spah-SEE-bah*	thank you	phrase
10	**пожа́луйста**	*pah-ZHAH-loo-stah*	please; you're welcome	phrase
11	**извини́те**	*eez-vee-NEE-tyeh*	excuse me (formal)	phrase
12	**прости́те**	*prah-STEE-tyeh*	sorry, forgive me (formal)	phrase
13	**до свида́ния**	*dah svee-DAH-nee-yah*	goodbye	phrase
14	**пока́**	*pah-KAH*	bye (informal)	phrase
15	**как**	*KAHK*	how	adv
16	**дела́**	*dee-LAH*	things, affairs (plural)	noun · pl
17	**да**	*DAH*	yes	phrase
18	**нет**	*NYET*	no	phrase
19	**то́же**	*TOH-zheh*	also, too	adv
20	**а**	*AH*	and, but	conj

Real Russian Tip — Пожа́луйста Does Two Jobs

Пожа́луйста means both "please" and "you're welcome", so one word covers what English needs two for. In fast, relaxed speech it is often shortened to something like *pah-ZHAHL-stah*, so do not be surprised if you hear it that way.

Say It Right — Здра́вствуйте

This is the hardest word of the chapter to say, and the first **в** is not pronounced at all: *ZDRAH-stvooy-tyeh*, not *zdrav-stvooy-tyeh*. Say it in two halves, *ZDRAH* and *stvooy-tyeh*, then join them. If it feels like too much at first, *До́брый день!* is an easy formal alternative, and *Приве́т!* is the easy informal one.

Приве́т Is for Ты Only

Приве́т! and **Пока́!** are for people you would address as **ты**. To a stranger, an official or someone older, use **Здра́вствуйте!** and **До свида́ния!**. Using *Приве́т* with the wrong person is the most common beginner slip, and it is usually forgiven with a smile.

✍️ Try It Yourself — Упражнения

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. It is morning and you meet your formal neighbour, Anna Ivanovna. What do you say?

▼ Show answer

До́брое у́тро, А́нна Ива́новна! (DOH-brah-yeh OO-trah, AHN-nah ee-VAH-nahv-nah)

2. A friend your age asks how things are. Say you are OK, and ask back.

▼ Show answer

Норма́льно. А у тебя́? (nahr-MAHL-nah. AH oo tee-BYAH?)

3. What are the formal and informal ways to say "How are you?"

▼ Show answer

Formal: **Как у вас дела́?** · informal: **Как у тебя́ дела́?** (KAHK oo VAHS dee-LAH · KAHK oo tee-BYAH dee-LAH)

4. You step on someone's foot on the metro. What do you say, formally?

▼ Show answer

Извини́те! (or Прости́те!) (eez-vee-NEE-tyeh! (or prah-STEE-tyeh!))

5. Say goodbye formally to a shop assistant, then informally to a friend.

▼ Show answer

До свида́ния! · Пока́! (dah svee-DAH-nee-yah! · pah-KAH!)

6. Someone says "Большое спасибо!" to you. What do you answer?

▼ Show answer

Пожа́луйста! (pah-ZHAH-loo-stah!)

Not Yet Verified

Checked (one web search on 2026-11-16): that *Здра́вствуйте* is the formal hello and *Приве́т* the informal one; that *ты* is for friends, family and people your age and *вы* for people you do not know well, teachers and elders; and that you should start with *вы* when unsure (sources: fluentin3months.com, polyglottistlanguageacademy.com, from search results only, the pages themselves were not read in full).

Not checked, from general knowledge: every stress mark and English respelling, the verb forms, the short forms of names, the silent *в* in *Здра́вствуйте*, the shortened *пожа́луйста*, and the answers to *Как дела́?*. No dictionary or pronunciation source was consulted. Check a Russian dictionary or a native speaker before relying on them.

Coming Up in Chapter 2

Introducing yourself: **Меня́ зову́т ...** ("my name is ..."), **Как вас зову́т?** ("what is your name?"), **О́чень прия́тно** ("nice to meet you"), first name and patronymic, and the surprising fact that Russian leaves out "am" in *Я студе́нт* ("I am a student").

🙋 Introducing Yourself — Знакомство

In Russian Basic Conversation 1, Chapter 1 you learned to greet people. Now you will learn to say who you are, ask who someone else is, introduce a friend, and cope when you do not understand. As before, every Russian word carries a stress mark and every dialog line has a respelling beneath it (CAPITALS = the stressed syllable).

① Meeting Someone (formal) — Знакомство

A:

Здра́вствуйте! Меня́ зову́т Фили́пп. А как вас зову́т?

ZDRAH-stvooy-tyeh! mee-NYAH zah-VOOT fee-LEEP. AH KAHK VAHS zah-VOOT?

Hello! My name is Philip. And what is your name?

B:

Здра́вствуйте! Меня́ зову́т А́нна Ива́новна.

ZDRAH-stvooy-tyeh! mee-NYAH zah-VOOT AHN-nah ee-VAHN-nahv-nah.

Hello! My name is Anna Ivanovna.

A:

О́чень прия́тно!

OH-chihn pree-YAHT-nah!

Very nice to meet you!

B:

Мне то́же о́чень прия́тно.

MNYEH TOH-zheh OH-chihn pree-YAHT-nah.

Very nice to meet you too.

② Meeting a Peer (informal) — Привет!

A:

Приве́т! Как тебя́ зову́т?

pree-VYET! KAHK tee-BYAH zah-VOOT?

Hi! What's your name?

B:

Меня́ зову́т Ди́ма. А тебя́?

mee-NYAH zah-VOOT DEE-mah. AH tee-BYAH?

My name is Dima. And yours?

A:

А меня́ — Ле́на. Прия́тно познако́миться!

AH mee-NYAH — LYEH-nah. pree-YAHT-nah pahz-nah-KOH-meet-tsah!

And I'm Lena. Nice to meet you!

B:

Взаи́мно!

vzah-EEM-nah!

Likewise!

③ Introducing a Friend — Это мой друг

A:

Ле´на, э´то Фили´пп. Фили´пп, э´то Ле´на.

LYEH-nah, EH-tah fee-LEEP. fee-LEEP, EH-tah LYEH-nah.

Lena, this is Philip. Philip, this is Lena. (Dima introduces them)

B:

Приве´т, Фили´пп! Прия´тно познако´миться.

pree-VYET, fee-LEEP! pree-YAHT-nah pahz-nah-KOH-meet-tsah.

Hi, Philip! Nice to meet you.

C:

Приве´т, Ле´на! Мне то´же.

pree-VYET, LYEH-nah! MNYEH TOH-zheh.

Hi, Lena! Me too.

④ Do You Speak English? — По-английски

A:

Извини´те, вы говори´те по-англи´йски?

eez-vee-NEE-tyeh, VIH gah-vah-REE-tyeh pah-ahn-GLEE-skee?

Excuse me, do you speak English?

B:

Нет, я не говорю´ по-англи´йски.

NYET, YAH nee gah-vah-RYOO pah-ahn-GLEE-skee.

No, I don't speak English.

A:

Я немно´го говорю´ по-ру´сски.

YAH nee-MNOH-gah gah-vah-RYOO pah-ROO-skee.

I speak a little Russian.

B:

Отли´чно! Вы хорошо´ говори´те!

aht-LEECH-nah! VIH khah-rah-SHOH gah-vah-REE-tyeh!

Excellent! You speak well!

⑤ Name and Surname — Имя и фамилия

A:

Как вас зову´т?

KAHK VAHS zah-VOOT?

What is your name?

B:

Меня´ зову´т Ири´на Петро´вна.

mee-NYAH zah-VOOT ee-REE-nah pee-TROHV-nah.

My name is Irina Petrovna.

⑥ Please Repeat — Повторите, пожалуйста

A:

Меня´ зову´т Ири´на Петро´вна.

mee-NYAH zah-VOOT ee-REE-nah pee-TROHV-nah.

My name is Irina Petrovna.

B:

A:

А как ва́ша фами́лия?

AH KAHK VAH-shah fah-MEE-lee-yah?

And what is your surname?

B:

Моя́ фами́лия — Ивано́ва.

mah-YAH fah-MEE-lee-yah — ee-vah-NOH-vah.

My surname is Ivanova.

Извини́те, я не понима́ю.

Повтори́те, пожа́луйста.

eez-vee-NEE-tyeh, YAH nee pah-nee-MAH-yoo.

pahf-tah-REE-tyeh, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah.

Sorry, I don't understand. Please repeat.

A:

Ири́на Петро́вна.

ee-REE-nah pee-TROHV-nah.

Irina Petrovna.

B:

Спаси́бо! Прия́тно познако́миться.

spah-SEE-bah! pree-YAHT-nah pahz-nah-KOH-meet-tsah.

Thank you! Nice to meet you.

🔑 Key Phrases — Ключевые фразы

*As in Chapter 1, the formal column uses **вы** and the informal column uses **ты**. Where the two columns are the same, the phrase works with anyone.*

SITUATION	FORMAL (ВЫ)	INFORMAL (ТЫ)
My name is …	**Меня́ зову́т …** *mee-NYAH zah-VOOT*	**Меня́ зову́т …** *mee-NYAH zah-VOOT*
What is your name?	**Как вас зову́т?** *KAHK VAHS zah-VOOT*	**Как тебя́ зову́т?** *KAHK tee-BYAH zah-VOOT*
Nice to meet you	**О́чень прия́тно!** *OH-chihn pree-YAHT-nah*	**Прия́тно познако́миться!** *pree-YAHT-nah pahz-nah-KOH-meet-tsah*
Likewise	**Мне то́же.** *MNYEH TOH-zheh*	**Взаи́мно!** *vzah-EEM-nah*

SITUATION	FORMAL (ВЫ)	INFORMAL (ТЫ)
This is ...	**Э́то ...** *EH-tah*	**Э́то ...** *EH-tah*
I am ... (a name)	**Я — ...** *YAH*	**Я — ...** *YAH*
Do you speak English?	**Вы говори́те по-англи́йски?** *VIH gah-vah-REE-tyeh pah-ahn-GLEE-skee*	**Ты говори́шь по-англи́йски?** *TIH gah-vah-REESH pah-ahn-GLEE-skee*
I don't understand	**Я не понима́ю.** *YAH nee pah-nee-MAH-yoo*	**Я не понима́ю.** *YAH nee pah-nee-MAH-yoo*
Please repeat	**Повтори́те, пожа́луйста.** *pahf-tah-REE-tyeh, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah*	**Повтори́, пожа́луйста.** *pahf-tah-REE, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah*

Меня́ зову́т — Literally "They Call Me"

Russians do not say "my name is". They say **Меня́ зову́т Фили́пп**, literally "(they) call me Philip". *Меня́* is a special form of *я* (a **case** form: the full system comes in Russian Grammar). You only need to learn the set of forms below, and you can use them as ready-made patterns for now.

WHO	FORM	SAY IT	PATTERN	MEANING
я	**меня́**	*mee-NYAH*	**Меня́ зову́т ...**	they call me
ты	**тебя́**	*tee-BYAH*	**Тебя́ зову́т ...**	they call you (informal)
он	**его́**	*ee-VOH*	**Его́ зову́т ...**	they call him
она́	**её**	*yee-YOH*	**Её зову́т ...**	they call her
мы	**нас**	*NAHS*	**Нас зову́т ...**	they call us
вы	**вас**	*VAHS*	**Вас зову́т ...**	they call you (formal or plural)
они́	**их**	*EEKH*	**Их зову́т ...**	they call them

🚫 No "Am / Is / Are" — Нет слова «есть»

*In the present tense Russian simply **leaves out "to be"**. You say the pronoun and the noun, and that is the whole sentence: Я студе́нт is literally "I student". There is also no word for "a" or "the". The noun changes with the person's gender and with the number.*

WHO	SAY IT	NOUN	SAY IT	ENGLISH
я (I (man))	*YAH*	**студе́нт**	*stoo-DYENT*	I am a student
я (I (woman))	*YAH*	**студе́нтка**	*stoo-DYENT-kah*	I am a student
ты (you, informal (man))	*TIH*	**студе́нт**	*stoo-DYENT*	you are a student
он (he)	*OHN*	**студе́нт**	*stoo-DYENT*	he is a student
она́ (she)	*ah-NAH*	**студе́нтка**	*stoo-DYENT-kah*	she is a student
мы (we)	*MIH*	**студе́нты**	*stoo-DYEN-tih*	we are students
вы (you, formal or plural)	*VIH*	**студе́нты**	*stoo-DYEN-tih*	you are students
они́ (they)	*ah-NEE*	**студе́нты**	*stoo-DYEN-tih*	they are students

> **The Dash**
> Between two nouns, writing often puts a dash where English has "is": *Ди́ма — студе́нт* ("Dima is a student"). In speech there is just a short pause. After a pronoun there is usually no dash: *Я студе́нт*. The word **Э́то** ("this is") also needs no verb: *Э́то Ле́на*.

🎩 First Name, Patronymic, Surname — Имя, отчество, фамилия

*A full Russian name has three parts: the **first name** (и́мя), the **patronymic** (о́тчество), made from the **father's first name**, and the **surname** (фами́лия). The patronymic ends in **-ович / -евич** for a man and **-овна / -евна** for a woman. So if the father is Ива́н, his son is Ива́нович and his daughter is Ива́новна.*

FATHER'S NAME	SON (MAN)	DAUGHTER (WOMAN)
Ива́н *ee-VAHN*	**Ива́нович** *ee-VAH-nah-veech*	**Ива́новна** *ee-VAHN-nahv-nah*
Серге́й *seer-GYAY*	**Серге́евич** *seer-GYEH-yee-veech*	**Серге́евна** *seer-GYEH-yihv-nah*
Пётр *PYOTR*	**Петро́вич** *pee-TROH-veech*	**Петро́вна** *pee-TROHV-nah*
Алексе́й *ah-lee-KSYAY*	**Алексе́евич** *ah-lee-KSYEH-yee-veech*	**Алексе́евна** *ah-lee-KSYEH-yihv-nah*

When to Use the Patronymic

With **вы**, first name plus patronymic is the respectful way to address someone: *А́нна Ива́новна*, *Серге́й Петро́вич*. With **ты** you use the first name or its short form (Chapter 1). As a visitor you do not need a patronymic yourself: giving your first name, *Меня́ зову́т Фили́пп*, is perfectly normal. Listen for how people address each other and copy them.

Surnames Have a Feminine Form

Many Russian surnames change for women: add **-а**. A man is *Ивано́в*, a woman is *Ивано́ва*; a man is *Смирно́в*, a woman is *Смирно́ва*. A woman asked *Как ва́ша фами́лия?* ("What is your surname?") answers *Моя́ фами́лия — Ивано́ва*; a man says *Моя́ фами́лия — Ивано́в*.

🔤 Three Verbs — Глаголы

Here is the present tense of three verbs for introductions and for getting to know people. Зна́ть follows the most common pattern (-ю, -ешь, -ет, -ем, -ете, -ют). Зва́ть and писа́ть are a little different: the vowel or consonant of the stem changes (зов- becomes зовёшь with ё; пис- becomes пиш-). Learn them as they are; you will see them again.

	ЗНА́ТЬ (TO KNOW)	ЗВА́ТЬ (TO CALL)	ПИСА́ТЬ (TO WRITE)
я (I) *YAH*	зна́ю *ZNAH-yoo*	зову́ *zah-VOO*	пишу́ *pee-SHOO*
ты (you, informal) *TIH*	зна́ешь *ZNAH-yihsh*	зовёшь *zah-VYOHSH*	пи́шешь *PEE-shihsh*
он, она́ (he, she) *OHN, ah-NAH*	зна́ет *ZNAH-yiht*	зовёт *zah-VYOHT*	пи́шет *PEE-shiht*
мы (we) *MIH*	зна́ем *ZNAH-yihm*	зовём *zah-VYOHM*	пи́шем *PEE-shihm*
вы (you, formal or plural) *VIH*	зна́ете *ZNAH-yih-tyeh*	зовёте *zah-VYOH-tyeh*	пи́шете *PEE-shih-tyeh*
они́ (they) *ah-NEE*	зна́ют *ZNAH-yoot*	зову́т *zah-VOOT*	пи́шут *PEE-shoot*

📖 Vocabulary — Словарь

20 key words. Gender: m = masculine, f = feminine, n = neuter.

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	и́мя	*EE-myah*	name, first name	noun · n
2	фами́лия	*fah-MEE-lee-yah*	surname	noun · f
3	о́тчество	*OHT-chihst-vah*	patronymic	noun · n
4	э́то	*EH-tah*	this is, these are	phrase
5	я	*YAH*	I	pron
6	меня́	*mee-NYAH*	me (as in меня́ зову́т)	pron
7	зову́т	*zah-VOOT*	(they) call	verb

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
8	**прия́тно**	*pree-YAHT-nah*	pleasant, nice	adv
9	**о́чень**	*OH-chihn*	very	adv
10	**мне**	*MNYEH*	to me, for me	pron
11	**взаи́мно**	*vzah-EEM-nah*	likewise	phrase
12	**друг**	*DROOK*	friend (male)	noun · m
13	**подру́га**	*pah-DROO-gah*	friend (female)	noun · f
14	**студе́нт**	*stoo-DYENT*	student (male)	noun · m
15	**студе́нтка**	*stoo-DYENT-kah*	student (female)	noun · f
16	**не**	*NYEH (nee before a verb)*	not	particle
17	**по-англи́йски**	*pah-ahn-GLEE-skee*	in English	adv
18	**по-ру́сски**	*pah-ROO-skee*	in Russian	adv
19	**повтори́те**	*pahf-tah-REE-tyeh*	please repeat (formal)	phrase
20	**немно́го**	*nee-MNOH-gah*	a little	adv

Real Russian Tip — Your Name in Cyrillic

Foreign names are written in Cyrillic by sound: *Philip* becomes **Фили́пп**, with a double *п*. Practise saying your own name and writing it in Cyrillic: it is the first thing people ask, and it makes a good first sentence: *Меня́ зову́т* …

Say It Right — Прия́тно познако́миться

The ending **-ться** sounds like *tsah*, as you learned in Russian Alphabet 2: *pahz-nah-KOH-meet-tsah*. The word **не** ("not") is said as part of the verb that follows it, so *не понима́ю* is *nee pah-nee-MAH-yoo*, with the stress only on *MAH*.

✍️ Try It Yourself — Упражнения

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. You meet an older stranger. Say hello, say your name, and ask for theirs, formally.

▼ Show answer

Здра´вствуйте! Меня´ зову´т Фили´пп. Как вас зову´т? (ZDRAH-stvooy-tyeh! mee-NYAH zah-VOOT fee-LEEP. KAHK VAHS zah-VOOT?)

2. A new classmate your age tells you their name. Ask for it informally, then say it is nice to meet them.

▼ Show answer

Как тебя´ зову´т? Прия´тно познако´миться! (KAHK tee-BYAH zah-VOOT? pree-YAHT-nah pahz-nah-KOH-meet-tsah!)

3. Introduce your friend Dima to your friend Lena.

▼ Show answer

Ле´на, э´то Ди´ма. (LYEH-nah, EH-tah DEE-mah.)

4. Ask a stranger politely whether they speak English.

▼ Show answer

Вы говори´те по-англи´йски? (VIH gah-vah-REE-tyeh pah-ahn-GLEE-skee?)

5. You did not catch someone's name. Say you do not understand and ask them to repeat.

▼ Show answer

Я не понима´ю. Повтори´те, пожа´луйста. (YAH nee pah-nee-MAH-yoo. pahf-tah-REE-tyeh, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah.)

6. How do you say "I am a student" if you are a woman? What word is missing compared with English?

▼ Show answer

Я студе´нтка. (YAH stoo-DYENT-kah) The word "am" is missing: Russian has no "am / is / are" in the present tense.

Not Yet Verified

Checked (one web search on 2026-11-16): how a patronymic is made (the father's first name plus *-ович / -евич* for a man and *-овна / -евна* for a woman), the examples *Ива´н → Ива´нович / Ива´новна*, *Пётр → Петро´вна* and *Алексе´й → Алексе´евич*, that first name plus patronymic is the formal way to address someone, and that women's surnames take a feminine form such as *Смирно´ва* (sources: gw2ru.com, Wikiwand: Russian name, from search results only, the pages themselves were not read in full).
Not checked, from general knowledge: the phrases *Меня´ зову´т* and *Как вас зову´т?* and the pronoun forms in the table, the verb forms, the dash rule, every stress mark and English respelling, and the pronunciation of *-ться* and *не*. No dictionary or pronunciation source was consulted. Check a Russian dictionary or a native speaker before relying on them.

Coming Up in Chapter 3

Numbers, age and contact details: counting from 0 to 100, saying how old you are (**Мне … лет**), and giving phone numbers and email addresses. Numbers in Russian change the noun that follows, so the chapter is split into three parts.

🔢 Numbers, Age & Contact Details — Числа, возраст и контакты

*This chapter has three parts in one page: **Part 1** counts from 0 to 10, **Part 2** goes on to 100, and **Part 3** uses numbers to say your age and to give a phone number and an email address. The six dialogs come first so you can hear the numbers in use. Every Russian word has a stress mark and a respelling, as before (CAPITALS = the stressed syllable).*

① How Old Are You? (formal) — Сколько вам лет?

A:

Ско́лько вам лет?

SKOHL-kah VAHM LYET?

How old are you?

B:

Мне со́рок пять лет. А вам?

MNYEH SOH-rahk PYAHT LYET. AH VAHM?

I'm forty-five. And you?

A:

Мне три́дцать оди́н год.

MNYEH TREE-tsaht ah-DEEN GOHD.

I'm thirty-one.

② How Old Are You? (informal) — Сколько тебе лет?

A:

Ско́лько тебе́ лет?

SKOHL-kah tee-BYEH LYET?

How old are you?

B:

Мне де́вять лет. А тебе́?

MNYEH DYEH-veet LYET. AH tee-BYEH?

I'm nine. And you?

A:

Мне оди́ннадцать лет.

MNYEH ah-DEE-nah-tsaht LYET.

I'm eleven.

③ A Phone Number — Номер телефона

A:

Како́й у вас но́мер телефо́на?

kah-KOY oo VAHS NOH-meer tee-lee-FOH-nah?

What is your phone number?

④ An Email Address — Имейл

A:

Како́й у вас и́мейл?

kah-KOY oo VAHS EE-mayl?

What is your email address?

B:

B:

Мой но´мер — плюс семь, де´вять ноль ноль, сто два´дцать три, со´рок пять, шестьдеся´т семь.

MOY NOH-meer — PLYUS SYEM, DYEH-veet NOHL NOHL, STOH DVAH-tsaht TREE, SOH-rahk PYAHT, shist-dee-SYAHT SYEM.

My number is +7 900 123 45 67.

A:

Спаси´бо! Я пишу´.

spah-SEE-bah! YAH pee-SHOO.

Thank you! I'm writing it down.

Sample соба´ка mail то´чка com.

sample sah-BAH-kah mail TOHCH-kah com.

sample@mail.com

A:

Соба´ка?

sah-BAH-kah?

Dog?

B:

Да! По-ру´сски @ — э´то соба´ка.

DAH! pah-ROO-skee @ — EH-tah sah-BAH-kah.

Yes! In Russian, @ is "the dog".

⑤ How Old Is She? How Old Is He? — Ей, ему

A:

Ско´лько ей лет?

SKOHL-kah YAY LYET?

How old is she?

B:

Ей два´дцать оди´н год.

YAY DVAH-tsaht ah-DEEN GOHD.

She is twenty-one.

A:

А ско´лько ему´ лет?

AH SKOHL-kah ee-MOO LYET?

And how old is he?

B:

Ему´ два´дцать пять лет.

ee-MOO DVAH-tsaht PYAHT LYET.

He is twenty-five.

⑥ A Small Mistake — Нет, мне тридцать один год

A:

Вам три´дцать лет?

VAHM TREE-tsaht LYET?

Are you thirty?

B:

Нет, мне три´дцать оди´н год.

NYET, MNYEH TREE-tsaht ah-DEEN GOHD.

No, I'm thirty-one.

A:

Извини´те!

eez-vee-NEE-tyeh!

Sorry!

B:

Ничего´ стра´шного.

nee-chee-VOH STRAHSH-nah-vah.

No problem.

🔑 Key Phrases — Ключевые фразы

SITUATION	FORMAL (ВЫ)	INFORMAL (ТЫ)
How old are you?	**Ско́лько вам лет?** *SKOHL-kah VAHM LYET*	**Ско́лько тебе́ лет?** *SKOHL-kah tee-BYEH LYET*
I am … years old	**Мне … лет.** *MNYEH … LYET*	**Мне … лет.** *MNYEH … LYET*
What is your phone number?	**Како́й у вас но́мер телефо́на?** *kah-KOY oo VAHS NOH-meer tee-lee-FOH-nah*	**Како́й у тебя́ но́мер телефо́на?** *kah-KOY oo tee-BYAH NOH-meer tee-lee-FOH-nah*
My number is …	**Мой но́мер — …** *MOY NOH-meer*	**Мой но́мер — …** *MOY NOH-meer*
What is your email address?	**Како́й у вас и́мейл?** *kah-KOY oo VAHS EE-mayl*	**Како́й у тебя́ и́мейл?** *kah-KOY oo tee-BYAH EE-mayl*
How much? How many?	**Ско́лько?** *SKOHL-kah*	**Ско́лько?** *SKOHL-kah*
Please repeat	**Повтори́те, пожа́луйста.** *pahf-tah-REE-tyeh, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah*	**Повтори́, пожа́луйста.** *pahf-tah-REE, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah*

1️⃣ Part 1 · Numbers 0 to 10 — Числа от 0 до 10

The first ten numbers are the foundation for everything else. Note the soft sign at the end of пять, шесть, семь, во́семь, де́вять and де́сять: it makes the final m or ь-consonant soft, as you learned in Russian Alphabet 2.

NUMBER	RUSSIAN	SAY IT
0	**ноль**	*NOHL*
1	**оди́н**	*ah-DEEN*

NUMBER	RUSSIAN	SAY IT
2	**два**	*DVAH*
3	**три**	*TREE*
4	**четы́ре**	*chee-TIH-ree*
5	**пять**	*PYAHT*
6	**шесть**	*SHEST*
7	**семь**	*SYEM*
8	**во́семь**	*VOH-seem*
9	**де́вять**	*DYEH-veet*
10	**де́сять**	*DYEH-seet*

One and two change with gender

*Only **1** and **2** have different forms for masculine, feminine and neuter nouns. Every other number is the same for all genders.*

NUMBER	MASCULINE	FEMININE	NEUTER
1	**оди́н** (m) *ah-DEEN*	**одна́** (f) *ahd-NAH*	**одно́** (n) *ahd-NOH*
2	**два** (m, n) *DVAH*	**две** (f) *DVYEH*	—

Say It Right — Ноль, Шесть, Семь

Ноль ends in a soft *л*, so the tongue touches just behind the teeth. **Шесть** is *SHEST* with a very short, clipped end, and **семь** is *SYEM*. Count to ten out loud three times: the mouth muscles need the practice more than the memory does.

2️⃣ Part 2 · Numbers 11 to 100 — Числа от 11 до 100

*The numbers 11 to 19 are built from the unit plus **-надцать** ("on ten"). The tens are mostly built from the unit and "ten", but three are special: **со́рок** (40), **девяно́сто** (90) and **сто** (100).*

NUMBER	RUSSIAN	SAY IT
11	одѝннадцать	*ah-DEE-nah-tsaht*
12	двена́дцать	*dvee-NAH-tsaht*
13	трина́дцать	*tree-NAH-tsaht*
14	четы́рнадцать	*chee-TIHR-nah-tsaht*
15	пятна́дцать	*peet-NAH-tsaht*
16	шестна́дцать	*shist-NAH-tsaht*
17	семна́дцать	*seem-NAH-tsaht*
18	восемна́дцать	*vah-seem-NAH-tsaht*
19	девятна́дцать	*dee-veet-NAH-tsaht*

The tens

NUMBER	RUSSIAN	SAY IT
20	два́дцать	*DVAH-tsaht*
30	три́дцать	*TREE-tsaht*
40	со́рок	*SOH-rahk*
50	пятьдеся́т	*peet-dee-SYAHT*
60	шестьдеся́т	*shist-dee-SYAHT*
70	се́мьдесят	*SYEM-dee-seet*

NUMBER	RUSSIAN	SAY IT
80	**во́семьдесят**	*VOH-seem-dee-seet*
90	**девяно́сто**	*dee-vee-NOH-stah*
100	**сто**	*STOH*

Joining them: 21 to 99

Say the ten first, then the unit, with no word between them: 21 is два́дцать оди́н ("twenty one").

NUMBER	RUSSIAN	SAY IT
21	**два́дцать оди́н**	*DVAH-tsaht ah-DEEN*
22	**два́дцать два**	*DVAH-tsaht DVAH*
35	**три́дцать пять**	*TREE-tsaht PYAHT*
48	**со́рок во́семь**	*SOH-rahk VOH-seem*
67	**шестьдеся́т семь**	*shist-dee-SYAHT SYEM*
99	**девяно́сто де́вять**	*dee-vee-NOH-stah DYEH-veet*

Why Are Some Tens Different?

From 50 to 80 the tens are built as "five tens", "six tens" and so on (*пять* + *десят*, *шесть* + *десят*), which is why they look so long: *пятьдеся́т*, *шестьдеся́т*. The three odd ones out, *со́рок* (40), *девяно́сто* (90) and *сто* (100), have to be learned individually, like English "forty" (not "fourty").

A Number Changes the Noun After It

In Russian, a number changes the form of the noun that follows. After **1** the noun is in its ordinary form, after **2, 3 and 4** it takes a special form, and after **5 and above** it takes another. This is a **case** pattern, and the full system comes in Russian Grammar. For now you only need the pattern for age (below), and Chapter 9 uses the same pattern for prices.

3️⃣ Part 3 · Age & Contact Details — Возраст и контакты

Saying your age

*Russians do not say "I am 30". They say **Мне три́дцать лет**, literally "to me thirty years". The word for "years" changes with the number, in three ways:*

WHEN THE AGE…	WORD	EXAMPLE	MEANING
ends in 1 (but not 11)	**год** *GOHD*	**Мне два́дцать оди́н год.** *MNYEH DVAH-tsaht ah-DEEN GOHD*	I'm 21.
ends in 2, 3 or 4 (but not 12, 13, 14)	**го́да** *GOH-dah*	**Мне три го́да. / Мне два́дцать два го́да.** *MNYEH TREE GOH-dah / MNYEH DVAH-tsaht DVAH GOH-dah*	I'm 3. / I'm 22.
everything else: 0, 5 to 9, and 11 to 14	**лет** *LYET*	**Мне пять лет. / Мне оди́ннадцать лет. / Мне со́рок лет.** *MNYEH PYAHT LYET / MNYEH ah-DEE-nah-tsaht LYET / MNYEH SOH-rahk LYET*	I'm 5. / I'm 11. / I'm 40.

> **Mind the Teens**
>
> Ages 11 to 14 end in 1, 2, 3 and 4, but they are **teens**, so they take **лет**: *Мне оди́ннадцать лет* (not *год*), *Мне двена́дцать лет* (not *го́да*). Only 21, 22, 31 and so on use *год* and *го́да*.

Whose age? The Little Words

*The person whose age it is appears in a special form of the pronoun (the **dative** case, which means "to" or "for"). You only need these seven forms for now:*

WHO	FORM	SAY IT	PATTERN	MEANING
я	мне	*MNYEH*	**Мне пять лет.**	I am 5.
ты	тебе́	*tee-BYEH*	**Тебе́ пять лет.**	You are 5.

WHO	FORM	SAY IT	PATTERN	MEANING
он	ему́	*ee-MOO*	**Ему́ пять лет.**	He is 5.
она́	ей	*YAY*	**Ей пять лет.**	She is 5.
мы	нам	*NAHM*	**Нам пять лет.**	We are 5.
вы	вам	*VAHM*	**Вам пять лет.**	You are 5 (formal or plural).
они́	им	*EEM*	**Им пять лет.**	They are 5.

Phone numbers and email

*Phone numbers are read in groups, not digit by digit. A Russian number is written +7 **(900) 123-45-67** and said as: плюс семь (the country code), then the area code де́вять ноль ноль digit by digit, then сто два́дцать три, со́рок пять, шестьдеся́т семь. In an email address, the @ sign is **соба́ка** ("dog") and the dot is **то́чка**. Latin letters in an address are usually said in English.*

> **Real Russian Tip — Why a Dog?**
>
> The @ sign looks to many Russians like a curled-up dog, hence **соба́ка**. You will hear it every time someone dictates an email address, and now you can too: *Sample соба́ка mail то́чка com.*

🔤 Three Verbs — Глаголы

All three follow the most common pattern (-ю, -ешь, -ет, -ем, -ете, -ют), except звони́ть, which uses the second pattern (-ю, -ишь, -ит, -им, -ите, -ят), as in говори́ть from Chapter 1. Note that the letters сч in счита́ть are said like щ (shch).

	ЗВОНИ́ТЬ (TO PHONE, TO CALL)	СЧИТА́ТЬ (TO COUNT)	ОТВЕЧА́ТЬ (TO ANSWER)
я (I) *YAH*	звоню́ *zvah-NYOO*	счита́ю *shchee-TAH-yoo*	отвеча́ю *aht-vee-CHAH-yoo*
ты (you, informal) *TIH*	звони́шь *zvah-NEESH*	счита́ешь *shchee-TAH-yihsh*	отвеча́ешь *aht-vee-CHAH-yihsh*

	ЗВОНИ́ТЬ (TO PHONE, TO CALL)	СЧИТА́ТЬ (TO COUNT)	ОТВЕЧА́ТЬ (TO ANSWER)
он, она́ (he, she) *OHN, ah-NAH*	звони́т *zvah-NEET*	счита́ет *shchee-TAH-yiht*	отвеча́ет *aht-vee-CHAH-yiht*
мы (we) *MIH*	звони́м *zvah-NEEM*	счита́ем *shchee-TAH-yihm*	отвеча́ем *aht-vee-CHAH-yihm*
вы (you, formal or plural) *VIH*	звони́те *zvah-NEE-tyeh*	счита́ете *shchee-TAH-yih-tyeh*	отвеча́ете *aht-vee-CHAH-yih-tyeh*
они́ (they) *ah-NEE*	звоня́т *zvah-NYAHT*	счита́ют *shchee-TAH-yoot*	отвеча́ют *aht-vee-CHAH-yoot*

📖 Vocabulary — Словарь

20 key words. Gender: m = masculine, f = feminine, pl = plural.

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	**ноль**	*NOHL*	zero	noun · m
2	**оди́н**	*ah-DEEN*	one	number
3	**два**	*DVAH*	two	number
4	**три**	*TREE*	three	number
5	**пять**	*PYAHT*	five	number
6	**де́сять**	*DYEH-seet*	ten	number
7	**два́дцать**	*DVAH-tsaht*	twenty	number
8	**сто**	*STOH*	one hundred	number
9	**ско́лько**	*SKOHL-kah*	how much, how many	adv

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
10	**год**	*GOHD*	year	noun · m
11	**лет**	*LYET*	years (in an age)	noun · pl
12	**но́мер**	*NOH-meer*	number	noun · m
13	**телефо́н**	*tee-lee-FOHN*	telephone	noun · m
14	**и́мейл**	*EE-mayl*	email	noun · m
15	**соба́ка**	*sah-BAH-kah*	dog; the @ sign	noun · f
16	**то́чка**	*TOHCH-kah*	dot, full stop	noun · f
17	**мой**	*MOY*	my (masculine)	pron
18	**како́й**	*kah-KOY*	which, what kind of	adj
19	**звони́ть**	*zvah-NEET*	to phone, to call	verb
20	**счита́ть**	*shchee-TAHT*	to count	verb

✍️ Try It Yourself — Упражнения

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. A new colleague asks you how old you are, formally. Ask them back, then answer for someone aged 22.

▼ Show answer

Ско́лько вам лет? Мне два́дцать два го́да. (SKOHL-kah VAHM LYET? MNYEH DVAH-tsaht DVAH GOH-dah.)

2. Say "I am 31" and "I am 35". Which age word goes with each?

▼ Show answer

Мне три́дцать оди́н год. · Мне три́дцать пять лет. (MNYEH TREE-tsaht ah-DEEN GOHD · MNYEH TREE-tsaht PYAHT LYET) (the age word is год after 1 and лет after 5)

3. Ask a friend, informally, for their phone number.

▼ Show answer

Како́й у тебя́ но́мер телефо́на? (kah-KOY oo tee-BYAH NOH-meer tee-lee-FOH-nah?)

4. Say the numbers 14, 40 and 99 in Russian.

▼ Show answer

четы́рнадцать · со́рок · девяно́сто де́вять (chee-TIHR-nah-tsaht · SOH-rahk · dee-vee-NOH-stah DYEH-veet)

5. How do you say the @ sign in an email address, and what is the dot?

▼ Show answer

соба́ка and то́чка (sah-BAH-kah and TOHCH-kah)

6. Someone asks how old your sister is. She is 12. Answer.

▼ Show answer

Ей двена́дцать лет. (YAY dvee-NAH-tsaht LYET) (12 takes лет, not the 2-to-4 word)

Not Yet Verified

Checked (one web search on 2026-11-16): the age rule (*год* after numbers ending in 1 except 11, *го́да* after 2, 3 and 4 except 12 to 14, *лет* for everything else), that the age is said with *мне* and the question is *Ско́лько вам / тебе́ лет?*, and that the person whose age it is takes the dative case (sources: pelister.org: expressing age, Wikibooks: Russian numbers, from search results only, the pages themselves were not read in full).

Not checked, from general knowledge: the number words, their stress and respellings; how phone numbers are grouped and read aloud; that Russian mobile numbers begin *+7 9…*; that @ is

соба́ка and why; the verb forms; and the pronunciation of *сч*. No dictionary or pronunciation source was consulted. Check a Russian dictionary or a native speaker before relying on them.

Coming Up in Chapter 4

Where you are from: **Отку́да вы?** ("where are you from?"), **Я из …** ("I am from …"), countries, nationalities and languages, and your first Russian place-ending, **в Эдинбу́рге** ("in Edinburgh").

🌍 Where You're From — Откуда вы?

*This chapter teaches you to say where you come from and where you live, to name your nationality, and to say which languages you speak. It also gives you your first Russian **place endings**: из Москвы´ ("from Moscow") and в Москве´ ("in Moscow"). Every Russian word has a stress mark and a respelling, as before (CAPITALS = the stressed syllable).*

① Where Are You From? (formal) — Откуда вы?

A:

Отку´да вы?
aht-KOO-dah VIH?
Where are you from?

B:

Я из Шотла´ндии. А вы?
YAH ees shaht-LAHN-dee-ee. AH VIH?
I'm from Scotland. And you?

A:

Я из Москвы´.
YAH eez mahsk-VIH.
I'm from Moscow.

② Where Are You From? (informal) — Откуда ты?

A:

Отку´да ты?
aht-KOO-dah TIH?
Where are you from?

B:

Я из Ло´ндона. А ты?
YAH eez LOHN-dah-nah. AH TIH?
I'm from London. And you?

A:

Я из Санкт-Петербу´рга.
YAH eez SAHNKT-pee-teer-BOOR-gah.
I'm from Saint Petersburg.

③ Where Do You Live? — Где вы живёте?

A:

Где вы живёте?
GDYEH VIH zhih-VYOH-tyeh?
Where do you live?

B:

Я живу´ в Эдинбу´рге. А вы?

④ Nationality — Вы шотландец?

A:

Вы англича´нин?
VIH ahn-glee-CHAH-neen?
Are you English? (to a man)

B:

Нет, я шотла´ндец!

YAH zhih-VOO v eh-deen-BOOR-gyeh. AH VIH?

I live in Edinburgh. And you?

A:

Я живу́ в Москве́.

YAH zhih-VOO v mahsk-VYEH.

I live in Moscow.

NYET, YAH shaht-LAHN-deets!

No, I'm Scottish!

A:

А! Вы говори́те по-англи́йски?

AH! VIH gah-vah-REE-tyeh pah-ahn-GLEE-skee?

Ah! Do you speak English?

B:

Да, коне́чно!

DAH, kah-NYEHSH-nah!

Yes, of course!

⑤ Languages — Вы говорите по-немецки?

A:

Вы говори́те по-неме́цки?

VIH gah-vah-REE-tyeh pah-nee-MYEHTS-kee?

Do you speak German?

B:

Нет, но я говорю́ по-францу́зски. А вы?

NYET, NOH YAH gah-vah-RYOO pah-frahn-TSOOS-kee. AH VIH?

No, but I speak French. And you?

A:

Я говорю́ по-ру́сски и немно́го по-неме́цки.

YAH gah-vah-RYOO pah-ROO-skee ee nee-MNOH-gah pah-nee-MYEHTS-kee.

I speak Russian and a little German.

⑥ Where Is She From? Where Is He From? — Она из...

A:

Отку́да Ле́на?

aht-KOO-dah LYEH-nah?

Where is Lena from?

B:

Она́ из Росси́и, из Санкт-Петербу́рга.

ah-NAH ees rah-SEE-ee, eez SAHNKT-pee-teer-BOOR-gah.

She's from Russia, from Saint Petersburg.

A:

А Ди́ма?

AH DEE-mah?

And Dima?

B:

Он то́же из Росси́и, из Москвы́.

OHN TOH-zheh ees rah-SEE-ee, eez mahsk-VIH.

He's also from Russia, from Moscow.

🔑 Key Phrases — Ключевые фразы

SITUATION	FORMAL (ВЫ)	INFORMAL (ТЫ)
Where are you from?	**Отку́да вы?** *aht-KOO-dah VIH*	**Отку́да ты?** *aht-KOO-dah TIH*
I am from …	**Я из …** *YAH ees / eez*	**Я из …** *YAH ees / eez*
Where do you live?	**Где вы живёте?** *GDYEH VIH zhih-VYOH-tyeh*	**Где ты живёшь?** *GDYEH TIH zhih-VYOHSH*
I live in …	**Я живу́ в …** *YAH zhih-VOO v*	**Я живу́ в …** *YAH zhih-VOO v*
I am Scottish (man / woman)	**Я шотла́ндец / шотла́ндка.** *YAH shaht-LAHN-deets / shaht-LAHNT-kah*	**Я шотла́ндец / шотла́ндка.** *YAH shaht-LAHN-deets / shaht-LAHNT-kah*
Do you speak …?	**Вы говори́те по-…?** *VIH gah-vah-REE-tyeh pah*	**Ты говори́шь по-…?** *TIH gah-vah-REESH pah*
I speak a little …	**Я немно́го говорю́ по-…** *YAH nee-MNOH-gah gah-vah-RYOO pah*	**Я немно́го говорю́ по-…** *YAH nee-MNOH-gah gah-vah-RYOO pah*
And you?	**А вы?** *AH VIH*	**А ты?** *AH TIH*

📍 From and In — Из и в

*To say where you are **from**, use **из** plus the place. To say where you **live**, use **в** plus the place. The place name changes its ending after each of them (these are two **cases**: the full system comes in Russian Grammar). The table gives the three forms of each place, ready to copy.*

THE PLACE	FROM (ИЗ ...)	IN (В ...)
Шотла́ндия *shaht-LAHN-dee-yah* Scotland	**из Шотла́ндии** *ees shaht-LAHN-dee-ee*	**в Шотла́ндии** *v shaht-LAHN-dee-ee*
А́нглия *AHN-glee-yah* England	**из А́нглии** *eez AHN-glee-ee*	**в А́нглии** *v AHN-glee-ee*
Великобрита́ния *vee-lee-koh-bree-TAH-nee-yah* the United Kingdom	**из Великобрита́нии** *eez vee-lee-koh-bree-TAH-nee-ee*	**в Великобрита́нии** *v vee-lee-koh-bree-TAH-nee-ee*
Росси́я *rah-SEE-yah* Russia	**из Росси́и** *eez rah-SEE-ee*	**в Росси́и** *v rah-SEE-ee*
Герма́ния *geer-MAH-nee-yah* Germany	**из Герма́нии** *eez geer-MAH-nee-ee*	**в Герма́нии** *v geer-MAH-nee-ee*
Фра́нция *FRAHN-tsee-yah* France	**из Фра́нции** *ees FRAHN-tsee-ee*	**во Фра́нции** *vah FRAHN-tsee-ee*
Москва́ *mahsk-VAH* Moscow	**из Москвы́** *eez mahsk-VIH*	**в Москве́** *v mahsk-VYEH*
Эдинбу́рг *eh-deen-BOORK* Edinburgh	**из Эдинбу́рга** *eez eh-deen-BOOR-gah*	**в Эдинбу́рге** *v eh-deen-BOOR-gyeh*
Ло́ндон *LOHN-dahn* London	**из Ло́ндона** *eez LOHN-dah-nah*	**в Ло́ндоне** *v LOHN-dah-nyeh*

THE PLACE	FROM (ИЗ …)	IN (В …)
Санкт-Петербу́рг *SAHNKT-pee-teer-BOORK* Saint Petersburg	**из Санкт-Петербу́рга** *eez SAHNKT-pee-teer-BOOR-gah*	**в Санкт-Петербу́рге** *v SAHNKT-pee-teer-BOOR-gyeh*

The Endings in Brief — A Case Box

You can work out most of the table with three small rules:

• Names ending in **-ия** (*Шотла́ндия*, *Герма́ния*) change to **-ии** after *из* and after *в*.

• Names ending in **-а** (*Москва́*) change to **-ы** after *из* and to **-е** after *в*.

• Names ending in a **consonant** (*Эдинбу́рг*, *Ло́ндон*) add **-а** after *из* and **-е** after *в*.

Learn the full forms as patterns for now, and note that *во Фра́нции* uses **во** instead of **в**, because a consonant group follows: *вф* would be hard to say.

Say It Right — From and In Join the Next Word

The little words **из** and **в** are said as part of the word after them: *в Москве́* sounds like *vmahsk-VYEH*. The **з** of *из* is voiced (*eez*) before a voiced sound and voiceless (*ees*) before a voiceless one, as you learned in Russian Alphabet 2: *из Ло́ндона* is *eez LOHN-dah-nah*, *из Фра́нции* is *ees FRAHN-tsee-ee*.

👱 Nationalities — Национальности

*In Russian the nationality has a **masculine** and a **feminine** form, so you say Я шотла́ндец if you are a man and Я шотла́ндка if you are a woman. Common endings are **-ец** for a man and **-ка** for a woman. Note that Russian writes nationalities and languages with a **small letter**.*

NATIONALITY	MAN	WOMAN
Scot	**шотла́ндец** *shaht-LAHN-deets*	**шотла́ндка** *shaht-LAHNT-kah*
Englishman / Englishwoman	**англича́нин** *ahn-glee-CHAH-neen*	**англича́нка** *ahn-glee-CHAHN-kah*

NATIONALITY	MAN	WOMAN
Russian	**ру́сский** *ROO-skee*	**ру́сская** *ROO-skah-yah*
German	**не́мец** *NYEH-meets*	**не́мка** *NYEHM-kah*
Frenchman / Frenchwoman	**францу́з** *frahn-TSOOS*	**францу́женка** *frahn-TSOO-zhehn-kah*
American	**америка́нец** *ah-mee-ree-KAH-neets*	**америка́нка** *ah-mee-ree-KAHN-kah*

Languages — Языки

*To say you speak a language, put **по-** in front of a special form that ends in **-ски** or **-цки**: Я говорю́ по-ру́сски, Я говорю́ по-англи́йски. You first met по-англи́йски and по-ру́сски in Chapter 2.*

LANGUAGE	IN THAT LANGUAGE	SAY IT
Russian	**по-ру́сски**	*pah-ROO-skee*
English	**по-англи́йски**	*pah-ahn-GLEE-skee*
German	**по-неме́цки**	*pah-nee-MYEHTS-kee*
French	**по-францу́зски**	*pah-frahn-TSOOS-kee*
Spanish	**по-испа́нски**	*pah-ees-PAHN-skee*
Japanese	**по-япо́нски**	*pah-yah-POHN-skee*
Hungarian	**по-венге́рски**	*pah-veen-GYEHR-skee*

Real Russian Tip — Scotland, England or Britain?

Many Russians say *А́нглия* ("England") for the whole of Britain, so a Scot who says **Я из Шотла́ндии** will usually get an interested smile and a few questions. The word for the whole

country is **Великобрита´ния**. If you simply say *Я шотла´ндец*, you will be understood perfectly well.

🔤 Three Verbs — Глаголы

Жить uses a stem that changes (жив- becomes живёшь with ё). Люби´ть and учи´ть follow the second pattern (-ю, -ишь, -ит, -им, -ите, -ят), with a small change in the я form: люблю´ (a new л appears) and учу´. Learn the forms as they stand.

	ЖИТЬ (TO LIVE)	ЛЮБИ́ТЬ (TO LOVE, TO LIKE)	УЧИ́ТЬ (TO LEARN, TO STUDY)
я (I) *YAH*	живу́ *zhih-VOO*	люблю́ *lyoob-LYOO*	учу́ *oo-CHOO*
ты (you, informal) *TIH*	живёшь *zhih-VYOHSH*	лю́бишь *LYOO-beesh*	у́чишь *OO-cheesh*
он, она́ (he, she) *OHN, ah-NAH*	живёт *zhih-VYOHT*	лю́бит *LYOO-beet*	у́чит *OO-cheet*
мы (we) *MIH*	живём *zhih-VYOHM*	лю́бим *LYOO-beem*	у́чим *OO-cheem*
вы (you, formal or plural) *VIH*	живёте *zhih-VYOH-tyeh*	лю́бите *LYOO-bee-tyeh*	у́чите *OO-chee-tyeh*
они́ (they) *ah-NEE*	живу́т *zhih-VOOT*	лю́бят *LYOO-byaht*	у́чат *OO-chaht*

📖 Vocabulary — Словарь

20 key words. Gender: m = masculine, f = feminine.

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	**отку́да**	*aht-KOO-dah*	where from	adv
2	**где**	*GDYEH*	where	adv
3	**из**	*EEZ*	from, out of	prep
4	**в**	*V*	in, into	prep
5	**страна́**	*strah-NAH*	country	noun · f
6	**го́род**	*GOH-raht*	city, town	noun · m
7	**Росси́я**	*rah-SEE-yah*	Russia	noun · f
8	**А́нглия**	*AHN-glee-yah*	England	noun · f
9	**Шотла́ндия**	*shaht-LAHN-dee-yah*	Scotland	noun · f
10	**Герма́ния**	*geer-MAH-nee-yah*	Germany	noun · f
11	**шотла́ндец**	*shaht-LAHN-deets*	Scot (man)	noun · m
12	**шотла́ндка**	*shaht-LAHNT-kah*	Scot (woman)	noun · f
13	**англича́нин**	*ahn-glee-CHAH-neen*	Englishman	noun · m
14	**ру́сский**	*ROO-skee*	Russian (man)	noun · m
15	**язы́к**	*yee-ZIHK*	language	noun · m
16	**по-неме́цки**	*pah-nee-MYEHTS-kee*	in German	adv
17	**но**	*NOH*	but	conj
18	**и**	*EE*	and	conj
19	**коне́чно**	*kah-NYEHSH-nah*	of course	adv
20	**жить**	*ZHIHT*	to live	verb

✍️ Try It Yourself — Упражнения

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Ask a stranger, formally, where they are from, and say you are from Scotland.

▼ Show answer

Отку́да вы? Я из Шотла́ндии. (aht-KOO-dah VIH? YAH ees shaht-LAHN-dee-ee.)

2. Say "I live in Moscow" and "I live in Edinburgh".

▼ Show answer

Я живу́ в Москве́. Я живу́ в Эдинбу́рге. (YAH zhih-VOO v mahsk-VYEH. YAH zhih-VOO v eh-deen-BOOR-gyeh.)

3. You are a Scottish woman. Say so.

▼ Show answer

Я шотла́ндка. (YAH shaht-LAHNT-kah.)

4. Ask a friend where they live.

▼ Show answer

Где ты живёшь? (GDYEH TIH zhih-VYOHSH?)

5. Say "I speak a little German".

▼ Show answer

Я немно́го говорю́ по-неме́цки. (YAH nee-MNOH-gah gah-vah-RYOO pah-nee-MYEHTS-kee.)

6. How do you say "from London" and "in London"?

▼ Show answer

из Ло´ндона · в Ло´ндоне (eez LOHN-dah-nah · v LOHN-dah-nyeh)

Not Yet Verified

Checked (one web search on 2026-11-16): that *из* plus the genitive case answers "where from" and *в* plus the prepositional case answers "where" (*Я из Москвы´*, *Я живу´ в Москве´*); that *Росси´я* becomes *Росси´и* in both; and that nationalities often end in *-ец* for a man and *-ка* for a woman (sources: elon.io: origin and destination, Russian For Everyone: nationalities, from search results only, the pages themselves were not read in full).
Not checked, from general knowledge: the exact forms of *шотла´ндец*, *англича´нин*, *не´мка* and *францу´женка*; the language forms in *по-…* and their respellings; the place-name forms for Edinburgh, London and Saint Petersburg; *во Фра´нции*; the three endings rules; the verb forms; and every stress mark. No dictionary or pronunciation source was consulted. Check a Russian dictionary or a native speaker before relying on them.

Coming Up in Chapter 5

Talking about your family: **ма´ма, па´па, брат, сестра´, ба´бушка, де´душка**, the phrase **У меня´ есть …** ("I have …"), and **мой / моя´ / моё** ("my").

👨‍👧 Talking About Your Family — Моя семья

*In this chapter you will name the members of a family, say what you have and what you do not have, and use the three words for "my" and "your". Russian has no verb "to have" for this: you say **У меня́ есть …**, literally "at me there is …", which you met as a hint in Chapter 1. Every Russian word has a stress mark and a respelling, as before (CAPITALS = the stressed syllable).*

① Brothers and Sisters (formal) — Братья и сёстры

A:

У вас есть брат и́ли сестра́?

oo VAHS YEST BRAHT EE-lee sees-TRAH?

Do you have a brother or a sister?

B:

Да, у меня́ есть брат и сестра́.

DAH, oo mee-NYAH YEST BRAHT ee sees-TRAH.

Yes, I have a brother and a sister.

A:

Ско́лько им лет?

SKOHL-kah EEM LYET?

How old are they?

B:

Ему́ два́дцать пять лет, а ей — двена́дцать.

ee-MOO DVAH-tsaht PYAHT LYET, AH YAY — dvee-NAH-tsaht.

He is twenty-five and she is twelve.

② Do You Have a Brother? (informal) — У тебя есть брат?

A:

У тебя́ есть брат?

oo tee-BYAH YEST BRAHT?

Do you have a brother?

B:

Нет, у меня́ нет бра́та. У меня́ есть то́лько сестра́.

NYET, oo mee-NYAH NYET BRAH-tah. oo mee-NYAH YEST TOHL-kah sees-TRAH.

No, I don't have a brother. I only have a sister.

③ My Family — Моя семья

A:

Э́то моя́ семья́.

EH-tah mah-YAH seem-YAH.

This is my family.

B:

Кто э́то?

KTOH EH-tah?

Who is this?

A:

Э́то мой брат. Его́ зову́т Ди́ма.

EH-tah MOY BRAHT. ee-VOH zah-VOOT DEE-mah.

This is my brother. His name is Dima.

B:

А э́то?

AH EH-tah?

And this?

A:

Э́то моя́ ба́бушка.

EH-tah mah-YAH BAH-boosh-kah.

This is my grandmother.

④ Do You Have Children? — У вас есть дети?

A:

У вас есть де́ти?

oo VAHS YEST DYEH-tee?

Do you have children?

B:

Да, у меня́ есть сын и дочь.

DAH, oo mee-NYAH YEST SIHN ee DOHCH.

Yes, I have a son and a daughter.

A:

Как их зову́т?

KAHK EEKH zah-VOOT?

What are their names?

B:

Его́ зову́т Ди́ма, а её — А́ня.

ee-VOH zah-VOOT DEE-mah, AH yee-YOH — AH-nyah.

His name is Dima and hers is Anya.

⑤ Husband and Wife — Муж и жена

A:

Э́то ваш муж?

EH-tah VAHSH MOOSH?

Is this your husband?

B:

Да, э́то мой муж. Его́ зову́т Серге́й.

DAH, EH-tah MOY MOOSH. ee-VOH zah-VOOT seer-GYAY.

⑥ Grandparents — Бабушка и дедушка

A:

Где живёт ва́ша ба́бушка?

GDYEH zhih-VYOHT VAH-shah BAH-boosh-kah?

Where does your grandmother live?

B:

Она́ живёт в Москве́. А ваш де́душка?

Yes, this is my husband. His name is Sergey.

A:

О́чень прия́тно!

OH-chihn pree-YAHT-nah!

Very nice to meet you!

ah-NAH zhih-VYOHT v mahsk-VYEH. AH VAHSH DYEH-doosh-kah?

She lives in Moscow. And your grandfather?

A:

Он живёт в Санкт-Петербу́рге.

OHN zhih-VYOHT v SAHNKT-pee-teer-BOOR-gyeh.

He lives in Saint Petersburg.

🔑 Key Phrases — Ключевые фразы

SITUATION	FORMAL (ВЫ)	INFORMAL (ТЫ)
I have ...	**У меня́ есть ...** *oo mee-NYAH YEST*	**У меня́ есть ...** *oo mee-NYAH YEST*
Do you have ...?	**У вас есть ...?** *oo VAHS YEST*	**У тебя́ есть ...?** *oo tee-BYAH YEST*
I don't have ...	**У меня́ нет ...** *oo mee-NYAH NYET*	**У меня́ нет ...** *oo mee-NYAH NYET*
Who is this?	**Кто э́то?** *KTOH EH-tah*	**Кто э́то?** *KTOH EH-tah*
This is my ...	**Э́то мой / моя́ / моё ...** *EH-tah MOY / mah-YAH / mah-YOH*	**Э́то мой / моя́ / моё ...** *EH-tah MOY / mah-YAH / mah-YOH*
Do you have children?	**У вас есть де́ти?** *oo VAHS YEST DYEH-tee*	**У тебя́ есть де́ти?** *oo tee-BYAH YEST DYEH-tee*
What is his / her name?	**Как его́ / её зову́т?** *KAHK ee-VOH / yee-YOH zah-VOOT*	**Как его́ / её зову́т?** *KAHK ee-VOH / yee-YOH zah-VOOT*

🏠 I Have … — У меня есть …

The pattern is ***у*** *+ a special form of the person +* ***есть*** *+ the thing you have: У меня́ есть брат, "I have a brother". The thing you have stays in its ordinary form. Learn the seven forms below as one block.*

WHO	AT WHOM	SAY IT	PATTERN	MEANING
я	у меня́	*oo mee-NYAH*	У меня́ есть брат.	I have a brother.
ты	у тебя́	*oo tee-BYAH*	У тебя́ есть брат.	You have a brother.
он	у него́	*oo nee-VOH*	У него́ есть брат.	He has a brother.
она́	у неё	*oo nee-YOH*	У неё есть брат.	She has a brother.
мы	у нас	*oo NAHS*	У нас есть брат.	We have a brother.
вы	у вас	*oo VAHS*	У вас есть брат.	You have a brother (formal or plural).
они́	у них	*oo NEEKH*	У них есть брат.	They have a brother.

> **A Case Box — Why H in у него́ and у неё?**
> The special forms (*меня́, тебя́, его́, её, нас, вас, их*) are the **genitive** case of the pronoun. After a preposition such as **у**, the third-person forms that start with a vowel add an **н**: *его́* becomes *у него́*, *её* becomes *у неё*, *их* becomes *у них*. The full case system comes in Russian Grammar; for now, copy the block.

👨‍👩‍👧‍👦 The Family — Члены семьи

The table gives each word, its gender, and the form you need to say you do ***not*** *have one:* ***У меня́ нет*** *+ the "нет" form (У меня́ нет бра́та, "I don't have a brother"). After нет the noun changes its ending; this is also the genitive case.*

WORD	GENDER	AFTER НЕТ	ENGLISH
ма́ма *MAH-mah*	f	**ма́мы** *MAH-mih*	mum, mother
па́па *PAH-pah*	m	**па́пы** *PAH-pih*	dad, father
брат *BRAHT*	m	**бра́та** *BRAH-tah*	brother
сестра́ *sees-TRAH*	f	**сестры́** *sees-TRIH*	sister
ба́бушка *BAH-boosh-kah*	f	**ба́бушки** *BAH-boosh-kee*	grandmother
де́душка *DYEH-doosh-kah*	m	**де́душки** *DYEH-doosh-kee*	grandfather
муж *MOOSH*	m	**му́жа** *MOO-zhah*	husband
жена́ *zhih-NAH*	f	**жены́** *zhih-NIH*	wife
сын *SIHN*	m	**сы́на** *SIH-nah*	son
дочь *DOHCH*	f	**до́чери** *DOH-chee-ree*	daughter
де́ти *DYEH-tee*	pl	**дете́й** *dee-TYAY*	children

The Endings in Brief

Words ending in **-а** change to **-ы** (*сестра́ → сестры́*, *жена́ → жены́*); after a **к** it is **-и** (*ба́бушка → ба́бушки*); a **consonant** at the end adds **-а** (*брат → бра́та*). *Дочь* and *де́ти* are special: *до́чери*, *дете́й*. Learn these as they stand.

📝 My and Your — Мой, твой, ваш

*"My" and "your" agree with the **gender** of the thing owned, not with the owner: мой брат (masculine), моя́ сестра́ (feminine), моё и́мя (neuter), мои́ роди́тели (plural). A woman says мой брат too, because брат is masculine. The words for "his", "her" and "their" do not change at all: его́ брат, её брат, их брат.*

OWNER	MASCULINE	FEMININE	NEUTER	PLURAL
my	**мой** *MOY*	**моя́** *mah-YAH*	**моё** *mah-YOH*	**мои́** *mah-EE*
your (informal)	**твой** *TVOY*	**твоя́** *tvah-YAH*	**твоё** *tvah-YOH*	**твои́** *tvah-EE*
your (formal, or plural)	**ваш** *VAHSH*	**ва́ша** *VAH-shah*	**ва́ше** *VAH-sheh*	**ва́ши** *VAH-shee*

Say It Right — Муж, Дочь, Ждать

Муж ends in *ж*, which is devoiced at the end of a word, so it is said *MOOSH* (Russian Alphabet 2). **Дочь** ends in a soft sign after *ч*, so it is *DOHCH*. In **ждать** and **жду**, the *жд* is said together as *ZHD*, with no vowel between them.

🔤 Three Verbs — Глаголы

Помога́ть follows the most common pattern (-ю, -ешь, -ет, -ем, -ете, -ют). Ви́деть follows the second pattern (-ишь, -ит, -им, -ите, -ят) with a change in the я form (ви́жу, with ж for д). Ждать is a short verb whose forms are жду, ждёшь, ждёт, ждём, ждёте, ждут. Learn them as they stand.

	ПОМОГА́ТЬ (TO HELP)	ВИ́ДЕТЬ (TO SEE)	ЖДАТЬ (TO WAIT)
я (I) *YAH*	**помога́ю** *pah-mah-GAH-yoo*	**ви́жу** *VEE-zhoo*	**жду** *ZHDOO*
ты (you, informal) *TIH*	**помога́ешь** *pah-mah-GAH-yihsh*	**ви́дишь** *VEE-deesh*	**ждёшь** *ZHDYOHSH*

	ПОМОГА́ТЬ (TO HELP)	ВИ́ДЕТЬ (TO SEE)	ЖДАТЬ (TO WAIT)
он, она́ (he, she) *OHN, ah-NAH*	помога́ет *pah-mah-GAH-yiht*	ви́дит *VEE-deet*	ждёт *ZHDYOHT*
мы (we) *MIH*	помога́ем *pah-mah-GAH-yihm*	ви́дим *VEE-deem*	ждём *ZHDYOHM*
вы (you, formal or plural) *VIH*	помога́ете *pah-mah-GAH-yih-tyeh*	ви́дите *VEE-dee-tyeh*	ждёте *ZHDYOH-tyeh*
они́ (they) *ah-NEE*	помога́ют *pah-mah-GAH-yoot*	ви́дят *VEE-dyaht*	ждут *ZHDOOT*

📖 Vocabulary — Словарь

20 key words. Gender: m = masculine, f = feminine, pl = plural.

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	**семья́**	*seem-YAH*	family	noun · f
2	**ма́ма**	*MAH-mah*	mum, mother	noun · f
3	**па́па**	*PAH-pah*	dad, father	noun · m
4	**брат**	*BRAHT*	brother	noun · m
5	**сестра́**	*sees-TRAH*	sister	noun · f
6	**ба́бушка**	*BAH-boosh-kah*	grandmother	noun · f
7	**де́душка**	*DYEH-doosh-kah*	grandfather	noun · m
8	**муж**	*MOOSH*	husband	noun · m
9	**жена́**	*zhih-NAH*	wife	noun · f
10	**сын**	*SIHN*	son	noun · m

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
11	**дочь**	*DOHCH*	daughter	noun · f
12	**де́ти**	*DYEH-tee*	children	noun · pl
13	**мой**	*MOY*	my (masculine)	pron
14	**твой**	*TVOY*	your (informal, masculine)	pron
15	**ваш**	*VAHSH*	your (formal, masculine)	pron
16	**кто**	*KTOH*	who	pron
17	**есть**	*YEST*	there is, there are	verb
18	**нет**	*NYET*	there is no, there are no	phrase
19	**и́ли**	*EE-lee*	or	conj
20	**то́лько**	*TOHL-kah*	only	adv

Real Russian Tip — Ма́ма and Па́па at Any Age

Russians of every age say **ма´ма** and **па´па** for their parents, and **ба´бушка** and **де´душка** for their grandparents, both when talking about them and when talking to them. The words are warm but not childish, so you can use them in conversation without worrying about sounding young.

✍️ Try It Yourself — Упражнения

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Say "I have a brother and a sister."

▼ Show answer

У меня´ есть брат и сестра´. (oo mee-NYAH YEST BRAHT ee sees-TRAH.)

2. Ask a stranger, formally, whether they have children.

▼ Show answer

У вас есть де´ти? (oo VAHS YEST DYEH-tee?)

3. Say "I don't have a brother."

▼ Show answer

У меня´ нет бра´та. (oo mee-NYAH NYET BRAH-tah.)

4. Show a photo and say "This is my grandmother."

▼ Show answer

Э´то моя´ ба´бушка. (EH-tah mah-YAH BAH-boosh-kah.)

5. Which word for "my" goes with брат, сестра´ and и´мя (name)?

▼ Show answer

мой брат · моя´ сестра´ · моё и´мя (MOY BRAHT · mah-YAH sees-TRAH · mah-YOH EE-myah)

6. Say "She has a daughter."

▼ Show answer

У неё есть дочь. (oo nee-YOH YEST DOHCH.)

Not Yet Verified

Checked (one web search on 2026-11-16): that *У меня´ есть* plus a noun in the ordinary form is the way to say "I have", including for family members; that *мой / моя´* agree with the gender of the relative and that *его´, её, их* do not change; that the owner after *у* takes the genitive; and that third-person pronouns add *н* after *у* (*у него´, у неё*) (sources: pelister.org: expressing "to have", elon.io: expressing possession, from search results only, the pages themselves were not read in full). **Not checked, from general knowledge:** the *нет* forms of the family words (*бра´та, сестры´, му´жа, жены´, сы´на, до´чери, дете´й*), which the search did not list; the full set of *мой / твой / ваш* forms; the verb forms; every stress mark and English respelling. No dictionary or pronunciation source was consulted. Check a Russian dictionary or a native speaker before relying on them.

Coming Up in Chapter 6

Talking about your job: **Кем вы рабо´таете?** ("what do you do?"), **Я инжене´р**, **Я рабо´таю в о´фисе** ("I work in an office"), and masculine and feminine job titles such as **учи´тель / учи´тельница**.

💼 Talking About Your Job — Моя работа

*In this chapter you will say what you do for a living and where you work, name common jobs for men and for women, and learn when a place takes **в** ("in") and when it takes **на** ("at"). You can say **Я инжене́р** ("I'm an engineer") straight away, since Russian needs no "am". Every Russian word has a stress mark and a respelling, as before (CAPITALS = the stressed syllable).*

① What Do You Do? (formal) — Кем вы работаете?

A:

Кем вы рабо́таете?
KYEM VIH rah-BOH-tah-yih-tyeh?
What do you do? (literally: as whom do you work?)

B:

Я инжене́р. А вы?
YAH een-zhih-NYEHR. AH VIH?
I'm an engineer. And you?

A:

Я учи́тельница.
YAH oo-CHEE-teel-nee-tsah.
I'm a teacher. (a woman speaking)

② Where Do You Work? — Где вы работаете?

A:

Где вы рабо́таете?
GDYEH VIH rah-BOH-tah-yih-tyeh?
Where do you work?

B:

Я рабо́таю в о́фисе в Эдинбу́рге. А вы?
YAH rah-BOH-tah-yoo v OH-fee-seh v eh-deen-BOOR-gyeh. AH VIH?
I work in an office in Edinburgh. And you?

A:

Я рабо́таю в шко́ле.
YAH rah-BOH-tah-yoo f SHKOH-lyeh.
I work in a school.

③ Two Friends (informal) — Кем ты работаешь?

A:

Кем ты рабо́таешь?
KYEM TIH rah-BOH-tah-yihsh?
What do you do?

④ Where Is Everyone? — На работе

A:

Где Ди́ма?
GDYEH DEE-mah?
Where is Dima?

B:

Я программи́ст. А ты?

YAH prah-grah-MEEST. AH TIH?

I'm a programmer. And you?

A:

Я продаве́ц. Я рабо́таю в магази́не.

YAH prah-dah-VYEHTS. YAH rah-BOH-tah-yoo v mah-gah-ZEE-nyeh.

I'm a shop assistant. I work in a shop.

B:

Он на рабо́те.

OHN nah rah-BOH-tyeh.

He's at work.

A:

А Ле́на?

AH LYEH-nah?

And Lena?

B:

Она́ до́ма.

ah-NAH DOH-mah.

She's at home.

⑤ My Parents' Jobs — Кто это?

A:

Кто э́то?

KTOH EH-tah?

Who is this?

B:

Э́то мой па́па. Он врач.

EH-tah MOY PAH-pah. OHN VRAHCH.

This is my dad. He is a doctor.

A:

А э́то?

AH EH-tah?

And this?

B:

Э́то моя́ ма́ма. Она́ учи́тельница.

EH-tah mah-YAH MAH-mah. ah-NAH oo-CHEE-teel-nee-tsah.

This is my mum. She is a teacher.

⑥ Working As... — Я работаю инженером

A:

Кем вы рабо́таете?

KYEM VIH rah-BOH-tah-yih-tyeh?

What do you do?

B:

Я рабо́таю IT-специали́стом.

YAH rah-BOH-tah-yoo ay-TEE spee-tsee-ah-LEE-stahm.

I work as an IT specialist.

A:

Интере́сно!

een-tee-RYEHS-nah!

Interesting!

B:

Да, о́чень. А вы?

DAH, OH-chihn. AH VIH?

Yes, very. And you?

🔑 Key Phrases — Ключевые фразы

SITUATION	FORMAL (ВЫ)	INFORMAL (ТЫ)
What do you do?	**Кем вы рабо́таете?** *KYEM VIH rah-BOH-tah-yih-tyeh*	**Кем ты рабо́таешь?** *KYEM TIH rah-BOH-tah-yihsh*
I am a …	**Я инжене́р. / Я учи́тельница.** *YAH een-zhih-NYEHR / YAH oo-CHEE-teel-nee-tsah*	**Я инжене́р. / Я учи́тельница.** *YAH een-zhih-NYEHR / YAH oo-CHEE-teel-nee-tsah*
I work as a …	**Я рабо́таю инжене́ром.** *YAH rah-BOH-tah-yoo een-zhih-NYEH-rahm*	**Я рабо́таю инжене́ром.** *YAH rah-BOH-tah-yoo een-zhih-NYEH-rahm*
Where do you work?	**Где вы рабо́таете?** *GDYEH VIH rah-BOH-tah-yih-tyeh*	**Где ты рабо́таешь?** *GDYEH TIH rah-BOH-tah-yihsh*
I work in an office	**Я рабо́таю в о́фисе.** *YAH rah-BOH-tah-yoo v OH-fee-seh*	**Я рабо́таю в о́фисе.** *YAH rah-BOH-tah-yoo v OH-fee-seh*
He / she is at work	**Он / она́ на рабо́те.** *OHN / ah-NAH nah rah-BOH-tyeh*	**Он / она́ на рабо́те.** *OHN / ah-NAH nah rah-BOH-tyeh*
I am a student	**Я студе́нт / студе́нтка.** *YAH stoo-DYENT / stoo-DYENT-kah*	**Я студе́нт / студе́нтка.** *YAH stoo-DYENT / stoo-DYENT-kah*
I don't work	**Я не рабо́таю.** *YAH nee rah-BOH-tah-yoo*	**Я не рабо́таю.** *YAH nee rah-BOH-tah-yoo*

Кем? — Literally "As Whom?"

Кем вы рабо´таете? is literally "as whom do you work?". The word *кем* is a special form of *кто* ("who"), the **instrumental** case, which is the case Russian uses for "working as" something. You can always answer without any case at all, *Я инжене´р*, and everyone will understand. The natural longer answer is *Я рабо´таю инжене´ром*, with a special ending on the job: see the table below.

👷 Jobs for Men and Women — Профессии

Some job titles have a separate feminine form (учи́тель → учи́тельница), and some do not: a woman who is a doctor usually says Я врач, and a woman engineer says Я инжене́р. Where there is a feminine form, use it for yourself if you are a woman.

MAN	WOMAN	ENGLISH
инжене́р *een-zhih-NYEHR*	**инжене́р** *een-zhih-NYEHR*	engineer (same for both)
учи́тель *oo-CHEE-teel*	**учи́тельница** *oo-CHEE-teel-nee-tsah*	teacher
врач *VRAHCH*	**врач** *VRAHCH*	doctor (same for both)
медбра́т *meed-BRAHT*	**медсестра́** *meed-sees-TRAH*	nurse
программи́ст *prah-grah-MEEST*	**программи́стка** *prah-grah-MEEST-kah*	programmer
продаве́ц *prah-dah-VYEHTS*	**продавщи́ца** *prah-dahf-SHCHEE-tsah*	shop assistant
официа́нт *ah-fee-tsee-AHNT*	**официа́нтка** *ah-fee-tsee-AHNT-kah*	waiter, waitress
бухга́лтер *bookh-GAHL-teer*	**бухга́лтер** *bookh-GAHL-teer*	accountant (same for both)
ме́неджер *MYEH-nee-dzhihr*	**ме́неджер** *MYEH-nee-dzhihr*	manager (same for both)
води́тель *vah-DEE-teel*	**води́тель** *vah-DEE-teel*	driver (same for both)

🏢 Where You Work — В и на

*Use **в** ("in") or **на** ("at, on") plus the workplace, and the workplace changes its ending to **-е** (a case: the **prepositional**). Which of the two to use depends on the word, so learn each place with its little word. Most places take **в**; the ones that take **на** in the table are рабо́та, заво́д and по́чта.*

THE PLACE	AT / IN THE PLACE
о́фис *OH-fees* office	**в о́фисе** *v OH-fee-seh*
шко́ла *SHKOH-lah* school	**в шко́ле** *f SHKOH-lyeh*
магази́н *mah-gah-ZEEN* shop	**в магази́не** *v mah-gah-ZEE-nyeh*
больни́ца *bahl-NEE-tsah* hospital	**в больни́це** *v bahl-NEE-tseh*
рестора́н *rees-tah-RAHN* restaurant	**в рестора́не** *v rees-tah-RAH-nyeh*
университе́т *oo-nee-veer-see-TYET* university	**в университе́те** *v oo-nee-veer-see-TYEH-tyeh*
рабо́та *rah-BOH-tah* work (the workplace)	**на рабо́те** *nah rah-BOH-tyeh*
заво́д *zah-VOHT* factory	**на заво́де** *nah zah-VOH-dyeh*

THE PLACE	AT / IN THE PLACE
по́чта *POHCH-tah* post office	на по́чте *nah POHCH-tyeh*

The Endings in Brief

A consonant at the end adds **-е** (*о́фис → в о́фисе*); **-а** changes to **-е** (*шко́ла → в шко́ле, рабо́та → на рабо́те*); **-ца** changes to **-це** (*больни́ца → в больни́це*). This is the same ending you met in Chapter 4 with cities (*в Москве́*).

🪪 Working As… — Работать кем

*To say you **work as** a certain job, the job takes an **instrumental** ending: **-ом** or **-ем** for a man's job, and **-ой** or **-ей** for a feminine word. You will see the full case system in Russian Grammar; here are the five you need most.*

JOB	I WORK AS …	MEANING
инжене́р	Я рабо́таю инжене́ром. *YAH rah-BOH-tah-yoo een-zhih-NYEH-rahm*	I work as an engineer (man or woman).
учи́тель	Я рабо́таю учи́телем. / Я рабо́таю учи́тельницей. *YAH rah-BOH-tah-yoo oo-CHEE-tee-leem / YAH rah-BOH-tah-yoo oo-CHEE-teel-nee-tsay*	I work as a teacher (man / woman).
врач	Я рабо́таю врачо́м. *YAH rah-BOH-tah-yoo vrah-CHOHM*	I work as a doctor.
программи́ст	Я рабо́таю программи́стом. / Я рабо́таю программи́сткой. *YAH rah-BOH-tah-yoo prah-grah-MEE-stahm / YAH rah-BOH-tah-yoo prah-grah-MEEST-kay*	I work as a programmer (man / woman).
продаве́ц	Я рабо́таю продавцо́м. / Я рабо́таю продавщи́цей.	I work as a shop assistant (man / woman).

JOB	I WORK AS …	MEANING
	YAH rah-BOH-tah-yoo prah-dahf-TSOHM / YAH rah-BOH-tah-yoo prah-dahf-SHCHEE-tsay	

Say It Right — Врач, Продавщица, Учитель

Врач ends in *ч*, so it is *VRAHCH*. In **продавщи´ца** the letters *вщ* are said close together, something like *fshch*, so the whole word is *prah-dahf-SHCHEE-tsah*. The soft sign in **учи´тель** makes the final *л* soft, as you learned in Russian Alphabet 2.

🔤 Three Verbs — Глаголы

*Рабо´тать and де´лать follow the most common pattern (-ю, -ешь, -ет, -ем, -ете, -ют). Учи´ться ("to study") is a **reflexive** verb: the ending -ся or -сь is added at the end (-сь after a vowel, -ся after a consonant). It is the verb for being a student: Я учу´сь в университе´те ("I study at a university").*

	РАБО́ТАТЬ (TO WORK)	ДЕ́ЛАТЬ (TO DO, TO MAKE)	УЧИ́ТЬСЯ (TO STUDY)
я (I) *YAH*	рабо́таю *rah-BOH-tah-yoo*	де́лаю *DYEH-lah-yoo*	учу́сь *oo-CHOOS*
ты (you, informal) *TIH*	рабо́таешь *rah-BOH-tah-yihsh*	де́лаешь *DYEH-lah-yihsh*	у́чишься *OO-cheesh-sah*
он, она́ (he, she) *OHN, ah-NAH*	рабо́тает *rah-BOH-tah-yiht*	де́лает *DYEH-lah-yiht*	у́чится *OO-chee-tsah*
мы (we) *MIH*	рабо́таем *rah-BOH-tah-yihm*	де́лаем *DYEH-lah-yihm*	у́чимся *OO-cheem-sah*
вы (you, formal or plural) *VIH*	рабо́таете *rah-BOH-tah-yih-tyeh*	де́лаете *DYEH-lah-yih-tyeh*	у́читесь *OO-chee-tyees*
они́ (they) *ah-NEE*	рабо́тают *rah-BOH-tah-yoot*	де́лают *DYEH-lah-yoot*	у́чатся *OO-chaht-sah*

📖 Vocabulary — Словарь

20 key words. Gender: m = masculine, f = feminine.

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	**рабо́та**	*rah-BOH-tah*	work, job, workplace	noun · f
2	**рабо́тать**	*rah-BOH-taht*	to work	verb
3	**профе́ссия**	*prah-FYEHS-see-yah*	profession	noun · f
4	**о́фис**	*OH-fees*	office	noun · m
5	**шко́ла**	*SHKOH-lah*	school	noun · f
6	**магази́н**	*mah-gah-ZEEN*	shop	noun · m
7	**больни́ца**	*bahl-NEE-tsah*	hospital	noun · f
8	**инжене́р**	*een-zhih-NYEHR*	engineer	noun · m
9	**учи́тель**	*oo-CHEE-teel*	teacher (man)	noun · m
10	**учи́тельница**	*oo-CHEE-teel-nee-tsah*	teacher (woman)	noun · f
11	**врач**	*VRAHCH*	doctor	noun · m
12	**программи́ст**	*prah-grah-MEEST*	programmer	noun · m
13	**продаве́ц**	*prah-dah-VYEHTS*	shop assistant (man)	noun · m
14	**официа́нт**	*ah-fee-tsee-AHNT*	waiter	noun · m
15	**ме́неджер**	*MYEH-nee-dzhihr*	manager	noun · m
16	**води́тель**	*vah-DEE-teel*	driver	noun · m
17	**кем**	*KYEM*	as whom, by whom	pron
18	**на**	*NAH*	on, at (with some places)	prep

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
19	до́ма	*DOH-mah*	at home	adv
20	интере́сно	*een-tee-RYEHS-nah*	interesting	adv

Real Russian Tip — Another Way to Ask

A common alternative to *Кем вы рабо´таете?* is **Кто вы по профе´ссии?**, roughly "what is your profession?". You may hear both. Either way, a short answer such as *Я инжене´р* is always fine.

✍️ Try It Yourself — Упражнения

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Ask a stranger, formally, what they do.

▼ Show answer

Кем вы рабо´таете? (KYEM VIH rah-BOH-tah-yih-tyeh?)

2. Say "I am an engineer."

▼ Show answer

Я инжене´р. (YAH een-zhih-NYEHR.)

3. You are a woman and a teacher. Say so.

▼ Show answer

Я учи´тельница. (YAH oo-CHEE-teel-nee-tsah.)

4. Say "I work in an office."

▼ Show answer

Я рабо´таю в о´фисе. (YAH rah-BOH-tah-yoo v OH-fee-seh.)

5. Say "He is at work."

▼ Show answer

Он на рабо́те. (OHN nah rah-BOH-tyeh.)

6. Say "I work as an IT specialist."

▼ Show answer

Я рабо́таю IT-специали́стом. (YAH rah-BOH-tah-yoo ay-TEE spee-tsee-ah-LEE-stahm.)

Not Yet Verified

Checked (one web search on 2026-11-16): the question *Кем ты рабо́таешь?*; the sentences *Я рабо́таю в о́фисе, на заво́де* and *в больни́це* as worksheet examples; and that a job name takes the instrumental case in a phrase such as *быть учи́телем* (sources: flexiclasses.com worksheet, russianenthusiast.com: instrumental case, from search results only, the pages themselves were not read in full).
Not checked, from general knowledge: the pattern *Я рабо́таю* + *instrumental* itself and every instrumental form in the table (*инжене́ром, учи́телем, врачо́м, продавцо́м*...); which jobs have feminine forms and which do not; the choice of *в* or *на* for each place (the search did not state a rule); *Кто вы по профе́ссии?*; the verb forms; every stress mark and English respelling. No dictionary or pronunciation source was consulted. Check a Russian dictionary or a native speaker before relying on them.

Coming Up in Chapter 7

Days, dates and telling the time: the days of the week and the months, **Кото́рый час?** ("what time is it?"), the 24-hour clock for timetables and the 12-hour clock in speech. The chapter has three parts.

🗓️ Days, Dates & Telling the Time — Дни, даты и время

*This chapter has three parts in one page: **Part 1** covers the days of the week, **Part 2** the months and the date, and **Part 3** telling the time. The six dialogs come first. Every Russian word has a stress mark and a respelling, as before (CAPITALS = the stressed syllable). Days, months and nationalities are written with a small letter in Russian.*

① What Day Is It? — Какой сегодня день?

A:

Како́й сего́дня день?
kah-KOY see-VOHD-nyah DYEN?
What day is it today?

B:

Сего́дня пя́тница.
see-VOHD-nyah PYAHT-nee-tsah.
Today is Friday.

A:

Спаси́бо! А за́втра?
spah-SEE-bah! AH ZAHF-trah?
Thank you! And tomorrow?

B:

За́втра суббо́та.
ZAHF-trah soo-BOH-tah.
Tomorrow is Saturday.

② What's the Date? — Какое сегодня число?

A:

Како́е сего́дня число́?
kah-KOH-yeh see-VOHD-nyah chees-LOH?
What's the date today?

B:

Сего́дня шестна́дцатое ноября́.
see-VOHD-nyah shist-NAHT-tsah-tah-yeh nah-yah-BRYAH.
Today is the sixteenth of November.

③ A Birthday — День рождения

A:

Когда́ ваш день рожде́ния?
kahg-DAH VAHSH DYEN rahzh-DYEH-nee-yah?

④ What Time Is It? (formal) — Который час?

A:

Извини́те, кото́рый час?

When is your birthday?

B:

Мой день рожде́ния — пятна́дцатое ма́я. А ваш?

MOY DYEN rahzh-DYEH-nee-yah — peet-NAHT-tsah-tah-yeh MAH-yah. AH VAHSH?

My birthday is the fifteenth of May. And yours?

A:

Мой — три́дцать пе́рвое декабря́.

MOY — TREET-tsaht PYEHR-vah-yeh dee-kahb-RYAH.

Mine is the thirty-first of December.

eez-vee-NEE-tyeh, kah-TOH-rih CHAHS?

Excuse me, what time is it?

B:

Сейча́с три часа́.

see-CHAHS TREE chee-SAH.

It's three o'clock.

A:

Спаси́бо.

spah-SEE-bah.

Thank you.

B:

Пожа́луйста.

pah-ZHAH-loo-stah.

You're welcome.

⑤ A Meeting — Во сколько встреча?

A:

Во ско́лько встре́ча?

vah SKOHL-kah FSTRYEH-chah?

What time is the meeting?

B:

В два часа́.

v DVAH chee-SAH.

At two o'clock.

A:

В два часа́ дня?

v DVAH chee-SAH DNYAH?

Two in the afternoon?

B:

Да, в два часа́ дня.

DAH, v DVAH chee-SAH DNYAH.

Yes, two in the afternoon.

⑥ Half Past — Половина третьего

A:

Ско́лько сейча́с вре́мени?

SKOHL-kah see-CHAHS VRYEH-mee-nee?

What time is it now?

B:

Полови́на тре́тьего.

pah-lah-VEE-nah TRYEH-tyee-vah.

Half past two. (literally: half of the third)

A:

То есть два три́дцать?

TOH YEST DVAH TREET-tsaht?

So, two thirty?

B:

Да, два три́дцать.

DAH, DVAH TREET-tsaht.

Yes, two thirty.

🔑 Key Phrases — Ключевые фразы

SITUATION	FORMAL (ВЫ)	INFORMAL (ТЫ)
What day is it?	**Како́й сего́дня день?** *kah-KOY see-VOHD-nyah DYEN*	**Како́й сего́дня день?** *kah-KOY see-VOHD-nyah DYEN*
What's the date?	**Како́е сего́дня число́?** *kah-KOH-yeh see-VOHD-nyah chees-LOH*	**Како́е сего́дня число́?** *kah-KOH-yeh see-VOHD-nyah chees-LOH*
When is your birthday?	**Когда́ ваш день рожде́ния?** *kahg-DAH VAHSH DYEN rahzh-DYEH-nee-yah*	**Когда́ у тебя́ день рожде́ния?** *kahg-DAH oo tee-BYAH DYEN rahzh-DYEH-nee-yah*
What time is it?	**Кото́рый час?** *kah-TOH-rih CHAHS*	**Ско́лько вре́мени?** *SKOHL-kah VRYEH-mee-nee*
At what time?	**Во ско́лько?** *vah SKOHL-kah*	**Во ско́лько?** *vah SKOHL-kah*
At two o'clock	**В два часа́.** *v DVAH chee-SAH*	**В два часа́.** *v DVAH chee-SAH*
Today / tomorrow / yesterday	**сего́дня / за́втра / вчера́** *see-VOHD-nyah / ZAHF-trah / fchee-RAH*	**сего́дня / за́втра / вчера́** *see-VOHD-nyah / ZAHF-trah / fchee-RAH*

1️⃣ Part 1 · Days of the Week — Дни недели

*The Russian week starts on **Monday**, and the days are written with a small letter. To say **on** a day, use **в** before the day (**во** before вто́рник, because вв would be hard to say). The three feminine days change their ending: среда́ → в сре́ду, пя́тница → в пя́тницу, суббо́та → в суббо́ту.*

DAY	GENDER	ON …	ENGLISH
понеде́льник *pah-nee-DYEHL-neek*	m	**в понеде́льник** *v pah-nee-DYEHL-neek*	Monday

DAY	GENDER	ON …	ENGLISH
вто́рник *FTOHR-neek*	m	**во вто́рник** *vah FTOHR-neek*	Tuesday
среда́ *sree-DAH*	f	**в сре́ду** *v SRYEH-doo*	Wednesday
четве́рг *cheet-VYEHRK*	m	**в четве́рг** *v cheet-VYEHRK*	Thursday
пя́тница *PYAHT-nee-tsah*	f	**в пя́тницу** *v PYAHT-nee-tsoo*	Friday
суббо́та *soo-BOH-tah*	f	**в суббо́ту** *v soo-BOH-too*	Saturday
воскресе́нье *vahs-kree-SYEH-nyee*	n	**в воскресе́нье** *v vahs-kree-SYEH-nyee*	Sunday

A Case Box — Why в сре́ду?

After **в** in the meaning "on (a day)", a feminine noun ending in **-а** changes to **-у** (the **accusative** case). Masculine and neuter days stay as they are. The full case system comes in Russian Grammar; for now, copy the table. *В понеде́льник мы рабо́таем* means "on Monday we work".

Today, tomorrow, yesterday

Сего́дня *("today"; the г is said в: see-VOHD-nyah),* ***за́втра*** *("tomorrow") and* ***вчера́*** *("yesterday") need no preposition: Сего́дня пя́тница.*

2️⃣ Part 2 · Months and Dates — Месяцы и даты

To say the date, Russian uses an ***ordinal number in the neuter*** *("the fifth") followed by the* ***month in a special form*** *("of November"): пя́тое ноября́, literally "the fifth of November". The question is* ***Како́е сего́дня число́?*** *("what is the date today?"), and the answer is Сего́дня пя́тое ноября́. The first column of the table is the month's name, the second the form you use in a date.*

MONTH	IN A DATE (... OF)	ENGLISH
янва́рь *yeen-VAHR*	**января́** *yeen-vah-RYAH*	January
февра́ль *feev-RAHL*	**февраля́** *feev-rah-LYAH*	February
март *MAHRT*	**ма́рта** *MAHR-tah*	March
апре́ль *ahp-RYEHL*	**апре́ля** *ahp-RYEH-lyah*	April
май *MAY*	**ма́я** *MAH-yah*	May
ию́нь *ee-YOON*	**ию́ня** *ee-YOO-nyah*	June
ию́ль *ee-YOOL*	**ию́ля** *ee-YOO-lyah*	July
а́вгуст *AHV-goost*	**а́вгуста** *AHV-goo-stah*	August
сента́брь *seen-TYAHBR*	**сентября́** *seen-tyah-BRYAH*	September
окта́брь *ahk-TYAHBR*	**октября́** *ahk-tyah-BRYAH*	October
ноя́брь *nah-YAHBR*	**ноября́** *nah-yah-BRYAH*	November
дека́брь *dee-KAHBR*	**декабря́** *dee-kahb-RYAH*	December

The day of the month

Here are the ordinal forms you need most. They all end in **-ое** *(or* **-ье** *for тре́тье), because they agree with число́ ("the date"), which is neuter. The numbers 11 to 30 follow the pattern of пятна́дцатое and двадца́тое; 31 is три́дцать пе́рвое.*

DAY OF THE MONTH	RUSSIAN	SAY IT
1	**пе́рвое**	*PYEHR-vah-yeh*
2	**второ́е**	*ftah-ROH-yeh*
3	**тре́тье**	*TRYEH-tyee*
4	**четвёртое**	*cheet-VYOR-tah-yeh*
5	**пя́тое**	*PYAH-tah-yeh*
6	**шесто́е**	*shees-TOH-yeh*
7	**седьмо́е**	*seed-MOH-yeh*
8	**восьмо́е**	*vahs-MOH-yeh*
9	**девя́тое**	*dee-VYAH-tah-yeh*
10	**деся́тое**	*dee-SYAH-tah-yeh*
15	**пятна́дцатое**	*peet-NAHT-tsah-tah-yeh*
16	**шестна́дцатое**	*shist-NAHT-tsah-tah-yeh*
20	**двадца́тое**	*dvaht-TSAH-tah-yeh*
31	**три́дцать пе́рвое**	*TREET-tsaht PYEHR-vah-yeh*

Real Russian Tip — No Word for "On" in a Date

To say that something happens **on** a date, you use the same words, with no *в*: *Мой день рожде́ния — пятна́дцатое ма́я* ("my birthday is the fifteenth of May"). Putting *в* in front is a classic beginner mistake. Today's date, as this chapter was written, would be *шестна́дцатое ноября́*.

3️⃣ Part 3 · Telling the Time — Который час?

Two questions ask the time: ***Кото́рый час?*** *and* ***Ско́лько вре́мени?*** *("how much time?"). The answer starts with* ***Сейча́с*** *("now") or simply gives the time. Hours work like год / года / лет in Chapter 3:* ***час*** *after 1,* ***часа́*** *after 2, 3 and 4, and* ***часо́в*** *after 5 and above.*

HOUR	RUSSIAN	SAY IT
1	час	*CHAHS*
2	два часа́	*dvah chee-SAH*
3	три часа́	*tree chee-SAH*
4	четы́ре часа́	*chee-TIH-ree chee-SAH*
5	пять часо́в	*PYAHT chee-SOHF*
6	шесть часо́в	*SHEST chee-SOHF*
7	семь часо́в	*SYEM chee-SOHF*
8	во́семь часо́в	*VOH-seem chee-SOHF*
9	де́вять часо́в	*DYEH-veet chee-SOHF*
10	де́сять часо́в	*DYEH-seet chee-SOHF*
11	оди́ннадцать часо́в	*ah-DEE-nah-tsaht chee-SOHF*
12	двена́дцать часо́в	*dvee-NAH-tsaht chee-SOHF*

Quarter and half hours

Traditional Russian speech looks ***forward****: 2:30 is "half of the third" (the third hour has started), 2:15 is "a quarter of the third", and 2:45 is "without a quarter three". The* ***digital*** *way (hour, then minutes) is easier for a beginner, and everyone understands it.*

TIME	TRADITIONAL	DIGITAL (EASY)
2:00	**два часа́** *dvah chee-SAH*	**два часа́** *dvah chee-SAH*
2:15	**че́тверть тре́тьего** *CHEHT-veert TRYEH-tyee-vah*	**два пятна́дцать** *DVAH peet-NAH-tsaht*
2:30	**полови́на тре́тьего** *pah-lah-VEE-nah TRYEH-tyee-vah*	**два три́дцать** *DVAH TREET-tsaht*
2:45	**без че́тверти три** *byez CHEHT-veer-tee TREE*	**два со́рок пять** *DVAH SOH-rahk PYAHT*

Morning, afternoon, evening, night

Russians in speech use a 12-hour clock and add one word to say which half of the day: ***утра́*** *("of the morning"),* ***дня*** *("of the day"),* ***ве́чера*** *("of the evening"),* ***но́чи*** *("of the night").*

WHEN	RUSSIAN
7:00 in the morning	**семь часо́в утра́** *SYEM chee-SOHF oo-TRAH*
2:00 in the afternoon	**два часа́ дня** *DVAH chee-SAH DNYAH*
8:00 in the evening	**во́семь часо́в ве́чера** *VOH-seem chee-SOHF VYEH-chee-rah*
2:00 at night	**два часа́ но́чи** *DVAH chee-SAH NOH-chee*

> **At a Time — В**
>
> To say that something happens **at** a time, put **в** in front of the hour: *В два часа́* ("at two o'clock"), *В семь часо́в ве́чера* ("at seven in the evening"). The question is **Во ско́лько?** ("at how much?", i.e. "at what time?").

The 24-Hour Clock

On timetables, tickets and schedules, Russians often use the 24-hour clock, and it is read as two plain numbers: *18:45* is *восемна́дцать со́рок пять*. In conversation, switch to the 12-hour clock with *утра́, дня, ве́чера, но́чи*. Chapter 12 uses the 24-hour clock for train times.

🔤 Three Verbs — Глаголы

Приходи́ть follows the second pattern with a change in the я form (прихожу́, with ж for д). Начина́ть and зака́нчивать follow the most common pattern (-ю, -ешь, -ет, -ем, -ете, -ют). Together they are the verbs of a timetable: Встре́ча начина́ется в два часа́ ("the meeting starts at two").

	ПРИХОДИ́ТЬ (TO COME, TO ARRIVE)	НАЧИНА́ТЬ (TO BEGIN, TO START)	ЗАКА́НЧИВАТЬ (TO FINISH)
я (I) *YAH*	прихожу́ *pree-khah-ZHOO*	начина́ю *nah-chee-NAH-yoo*	зака́нчиваю *zah-KAHN-chee-vah-yoo*
ты (you, informal) *TIH*	прихо́дишь *pree-KHOH-deesh*	начина́ешь *nah-chee-NAH-yihsh*	зака́нчиваешь *zah-KAHN-chee-vah-yihsh*
он, она́ (he, she) *OHN, ah-NAH*	прихо́дит *pree-KHOH-deet*	начина́ет *nah-chee-NAH-yiht*	зака́нчивает *zah-KAHN-chee-vah-yiht*
мы (we) *MIH*	прихо́дим *pree-KHOH-deem*	начина́ем *nah-chee-NAH-yihm*	зака́нчиваем *zah-KAHN-chee-vah-yihm*
вы (you, formal or plural) *VIH*	прихо́дите *pree-KHOH-dee-tyeh*	начина́ете *nah-chee-NAH-yih-tyeh*	зака́нчиваете *zah-KAHN-chee-vah-yih-tyeh*

	ПРИХОДИ́ТЬ (TO COME, TO ARRIVE)	НАЧИНА́ТЬ (TO BEGIN, TO START)	ЗАКА́НЧИВАТЬ (TO FINISH)
они́ (they) *ah-NEE*	прихо́дят *pree-KHOH-dyaht*	начина́ют *nah-chee-NAH-yoot*	зака́нчивают *zah-KAHN-chee-vah-yoot*

📖 Vocabulary — Словарь

20 key words. Gender: m = masculine, f = feminine, n = neuter.

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	сего́дня	*see-VOHD-nyah*	today	adv
2	за́втра	*ZAHF-trah*	tomorrow	adv
3	вчера́	*fchee-RAH*	yesterday	adv
4	неде́ля	*nee-DYEH-lyah*	week	noun · f
5	ме́сяц	*MYEH-seets*	month	noun · m
6	число́	*chees-LOH*	number; the date	noun · n
7	час	*CHAHS*	hour; o'clock	noun · m
8	мину́та	*mee-NOO-tah*	minute	noun · f
9	вре́мя	*VRYEH-myah*	time	noun · n
10	кото́рый	*kah-TOH-rih*	which	adj
11	когда́	*kahg-DAH*	when	adv
12	сейча́с	*see-CHAHS*	now	adv
13	полови́на	*pah-lah-VEE-nah*	half	noun · f
14	че́тверть	*CHEHT-veert*	quarter	noun · f

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
15	**встре́ча**	*FSTRYEH-chah*	meeting	noun · f
16	**день рожде́ния**	*DYEN rahzh-DYEH-nee-yah*	birthday	noun · m
17	**понеде́льник**	*pah-nee-DYEHL-neek*	Monday	noun · m
18	**пя́тница**	*PYAHT-nee-tsah*	Friday	noun · f
19	**суббо́та**	*soo-BOH-tah*	Saturday	noun · f
20	**воскресе́нье**	*vahs-kree-SYEH-nyee*	Sunday	noun · n

✍️ Try It Yourself — Упражнения

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Ask what day it is today, and answer "Today is Wednesday."

▼ Show answer

Како́й сего́дня день? Сего́дня среда́. (kah-KOY see-VOHD-nyah DYEN? see-VOHD-nyah sree-DAH.)

2. Say "on Friday".

▼ Show answer

в пя́тницу (f PYAHT-nee-tsoo)

3. Ask what the date is.

▼ Show answer

Како́е сего́дня число́? (kah-KOH-yeh see-VOHD-nyah chees-LOH?)

4. Say "Today is the fifth of May."

▼ Show answer

Сего´дня пя´тое ма´я. (see-VOHD-nyah PYAH-tah-yeh MAH-yah.)

5. Ask the time, and answer "It's four o'clock."

▼ Show answer

Кото´рый час? Сейча´с четы´ре часа´. (kah-TOH-rih CHAHS? see-CHAHS chee-TIH-ree chee-SAH.)

6. Say "at seven o'clock in the evening".

▼ Show answer

в семь часо´в ве´чера (f SYEM chee-SOHF VYEH-chee-rah)

Not Yet Verified

Checked (one web search on 2026-11-16): that the date is an ordinal in the genitive plus the month in the genitive, with the question *Како´е сего´дня число´?* and an answer of the form *Сего´дня пятна´дцатое ма´рта*; that no *в* is used with a date; that *в* + the accusative gives "on (a day)" (*в сре´ду, в пя´тницу, в суббо´ту*); that *Кото´рый час?* asks the time; and the traditional forms *че´тверть тре´тьего, полови´на пя´того* and *без десяти´ шесть* (sources: elon.io: time and date, flexiclasses.com: time, days, months, from search results only, the pages themselves were not read in full).
Not checked, from general knowledge: the exact phrases *полови´на тре´тьего* and *без че´тверти три*; *во вто´рник*; the full list of month forms, the ordinals and their respellings; *Во ско´лько?*; the digital forms; the 24-hour reading; the verb forms; every stress mark and English respelling. The search also gave conflicting views on how often the 24-hour clock is used in speech, so treat that note with caution. No dictionary or pronunciation source was consulted. Check a Russian dictionary or a native speaker before relying on them.

Coming Up in Chapter 8

Ordering food and drink at a café: **Мне, пожа´луйста, ко´фе** ("for me, please, a coffee"), **Что бу´дете зака´зывать?**, **Счёт, пожа´луйста**, and Russian café food such as *блины´* and *пирожки´*.

☕ Ordering Food & Drink at a Café — В кафе

*In this chapter you will order a drink and something to eat, say whether it is for here or to take away, ask for the bill, and say that you are hungry or thirsty. You will also meet your first **accusative** ending: вода́ becomes во́ду when you ask for it. Service chapters default to formal **вы**. Every Russian word has a stress mark and a respelling, as before (CAPITALS = the stressed syllable).*

① Ordering a Coffee — Мне, пожалуйста, кофе

A:

Здра́вствуйте! Что вы бу́дете?
ZDRAH-stvooy-tyeh! SHTOH VIH BOO-dee-tyeh?
Hello! What will you have? (the waiter)

B:

Мне, пожа́луйста, ко́фе.
MNYEH, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah, KOH-feh.
A coffee for me, please.

A:

С молоко́м?
s mah-lah-KOHM?
With milk?

B:

Да, с молоко́м, пожа́луйста.
DAH, s mah-lah-KOHM, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah.
Yes, with milk, please.

② Anything Else? — Что-нибудь ещё?

A:

Да́йте мне, пожа́луйста, чай и пирожо́к.
DAY-tyeh MNYEH, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah, CHAY ee pee-rah-ZHOHK.
Give me tea and a pirozhok (a small pie), please.

B:

Пожа́луйста. Что-нибудь ещё?
pah-ZHAH-loo-stah. SHTOH-nee-boot yee-SHCHOH?
Here you are. Anything else?

A:

Нет, спаси́бо.
NYET, spah-SEE-bah.
No, thank you.

③ Here or Take Away? — Здесь или с собой?

A:

④ What Do You Have? — Что у вас есть?

A:

Здесь и́ли с собо́й?

ZDYEHS EE-lee s sah-BOY?

Here or to take away?

B:

С собо́й, пожа́луйста.

s sah-BOY, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah.

To take away, please.

A:

Хорошо́.

khah-rah-SHOH.

Fine.

Мо́жно меню́?

MOH-zhnah mee-NYOO?

May I have the menu?

B:

Коне́чно. Вот меню́.

kah-NYEHSH-nah. VOHT mee-NYOO.

Of course. Here is the menu.

A:

Что у вас есть?

SHTOH oo VAHS YEST?

What do you have?

B:

У нас есть блины́, пирожки́ и борщ.

oo NAHS YEST blee-NIH, pee-rahsh-KEE ee BORSHCH.

We have pancakes, pirozhki and borscht.

A:

Да́йте блины́, пожа́луйста.

DAY-tyeh blee-NIH, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah.

Give me pancakes, please.

⑤ Two Friends (informal) — Я хочу чай

A:

Что ты хо́чешь?

SHTOH TIH KHOH-cheesh?

What do you want?

B:

Я хочу́ чай. А ты?

YAH khah-CHOO CHAY. AH TIH?

I want tea. And you?

A:

А я хочу́ есть. Я хочу́ блины́.

⑥ The Bill — Счёт, пожалуйста

A:

Счёт, пожа́луйста.

SHCHOHT, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah.

The bill, please.

B:

Вот счёт.

VOHT SHCHOHT.

Here is the bill.

A:

AH YAH khah-CHOO YEST. YAH khah-CHOO blee-NIH.
I'm hungry. I want pancakes.

Спаси́бо! Всё бы́ло о́чень вку́сно.
spah-SEE-bah! FSYOH BIH-lah OH-chihn FKOOS-nah.
Thank you! Everything was very tasty.

B:

Пожа́луйста! Приходи́те ещё!
pah-ZHAH-loo-stah! pree-khah-DEE-tyeh yee-SHCHOH!
You're welcome! Come again!

🔑 Key Phrases — Ключевые фразы

SITUATION	FORMAL (ВЫ)	INFORMAL (ТЫ)
A … for me, please	**Мне, пожа́луйста, …** *MNYEH, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah*	**Мне, пожа́луйста, …** *MNYEH, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah*
Give me …, please	**Да́йте мне, пожа́луйста, …** *DAY-tyeh MNYEH, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah*	**Дай мне, пожа́луйста, …** *DAY MNYEH, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah*
I would like … (man / woman)	**Я хоте́л бы … / Я хоте́ла бы …** *YAH khah-TYEL bih / YAH khah-TYEH-lah bih*	**Я хочу́ …** *YAH khah-CHOO*
May I have the menu?	**Мо́жно меню́?** *MOH-zhnah mee-NYOO*	**Мо́жно меню́?** *MOH-zhnah mee-NYOO*
What will you have? (waiter)	**Что вы бу́дете?** *SHTOH VIH BOO-dee-tyeh*	**Что ты бу́дешь?** *SHTOH TIH BOO-deesh*
Here or to take away?	**Здесь и́ли с собо́й?** *ZDYEHS EE-lee s sah-BOY*	**Здесь и́ли с собо́й?** *ZDYEHS EE-lee s sah-BOY*
Anything else?	**Что-нибудь ещё?** *SHTOH-nee-boot yee-SHCHOH*	**Что-нибудь ещё?** *SHTOH-nee-boot yee-SHCHOH*

SITUATION	FORMAL (ВЫ)	INFORMAL (ТЫ)
The bill, please	**Счёт, пожа́луйста.** *SHCHOHT, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah*	**Счёт, пожа́луйста.** *SHCHOHT, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah*
It was very tasty	**Всё бы́ло о́чень вку́сно.** *FSYOH BIH-lah OH-chihn FKOOS-nah*	**Всё бы́ло о́чень вку́сно.** *FSYOH BIH-lah OH-chihn FKOOS-nah*

Мне, пожа́луйста — Literally "To Me, Please"

The usual way to order in Russia is **Мне, пожа´луйста, ко´фе**, literally "to me, please, a coffee". *Мне* is the same word you used for age in Chapter 3 (*Мне три´дцать лет*). It is polite, short and understood everywhere. **Да´йте мне …** ("give me …") is the other common way. The waiter's *Что вы бу´дете?* means "what will you have?".

🍽️ Food and Drink — Еда и напитки

A small menu to start with. Gender matters for one reason in this chapter: feminine words ending in ***-a*** *change their ending when you ask for them.*

RUSSIAN	SAY IT	GENDER	ENGLISH
ко́фе	*KOH-feh*	m	coffee
чай	*CHAY*	m	tea
вода́	*vah-DAH*	f	water
сок	*SOHK*	m	juice
молоко́	*mah-lah-KOH*	n	milk
хлеб	*KHLYEP*	m	bread
суп	*SOOP*	m	soup
борщ	*BORSHCH*	m	borscht (beetroot soup)

RUSSIAN	SAY IT	GENDER	ENGLISH
сала́т	*sah-LAHT*	m	salad
блины́	*blee-NIH*	pl	pancakes (thin, like crêpes)
пирожки́	*pee-rahsh-KEE*	pl	pirozhki (small baked or fried pies)
сы́рники	*SIHR-nee-kee*	pl	syrniki (fried curd-cheese pancakes)
торт	*TOHRT*	m	cake

🎯 Asking For It — The Accusative

*After Я хочу́ ("I want"), Да́йте ("give") and similar verbs, a feminine word ending in **-а** changes to **-у** (вода́ → во́ду), and a word ending in **-я** changes to **-ю**. Masculine and neuter words such as чай, суп, молоко́ do not change at all. This is the **accusative** case; the full system comes in Russian Grammar.*

WORD	AFTER ХОЧУ́ / ДАЙТЕ	EXAMPLE	MEANING
вода́ *vah-DAH*	**во́ду** *VOH-doo*	**Да́йте во́ду.** *DAY-tyeh VOH-doo*	Give me water.
ка́ша *KAH-shah*	**ка́шу** *KAH-shoo*	**Я хочу́ ка́шу.** *YAH khah-CHOO KAH-shoo*	I want porridge.
пи́цца *PEE-tsah*	**пи́ццу** *PEE-tsoo*	**Мне пи́ццу.** *MNYEH PEE-tsoo*	A pizza for me.
чай *CHAY*	**чай** *CHAY*	**Я хочу́ чай.** *YAH khah-CHOO CHAY*	I want tea. (no change)
суп *SOOP*	**суп** *SOOP*	**Мне суп.** *MNYEH SOOP*	Soup for me. (no change)
молоко́ *mah-lah-KOH*	**молоко́** *mah-lah-KOH*	**Мне молоко́.** *MNYEH mah-lah-KOH*	Milk for me. (no change)

With and without

To add something to a drink, use **с** *("with"); to leave it out, use* **без** *("without"). The word after them takes a special ending, so learn the ready-made phrases below.*

MEANING	RUSSIAN	SAY IT
with milk	**с молоко́м**	*s mah-lah-KOHM*
with sugar	**с са́харом**	*s SAH-khah-rahm*
with lemon	**с лимо́ном**	*s lee-MOH-nahm*
without sugar	**без са́хара**	*byez SAH-khah-rah*
without milk	**без молока́**	*byez mah-lah-KAH*

Real Russian Tip — What Is Russian Café Food?

Блины́ are thin pancakes, eaten with sour cream, jam or a savoury filling. **Пирожки́** are small baked or fried pies with a filling. **Сы́рники** are small fried pancakes made from curd cheese (*творо́г*). **Борщ** is the famous beetroot soup, usually served with sour cream. **Чай** is the national drink, often with lemon or sugar.

Есть Has Two Jobs

Есть means "there is" (*У нас есть блины́*, "we have pancakes", as in Chapter 5) and also "to eat" (*Я хочу́ есть*, "I'm hungry", literally "I want to eat"). The spelling is the same and so is the stress, so you have to tell them apart from the sentence.

Say It Right — Что, Счёт, Борщ, Ещё

The word **что** is said *SHTOH*, as in Russian Alphabet 2. In **счёт** and **ещё** the sound is *щ* (*shch*): *SHCHOHT* and *yee-SHCHOH*. **Борщ** ends in *щ* as well: *BORSHCH*. In **вку́сно**, the *в* is said like *f* before *к*, so the word is *FKOOS-nah*.

Three Verbs — Глаголы

Хоте́ть is irregular: the я, ты, он forms use хоч- (хочу́, хо́чешь, хо́чет), and the мы, вы, они́ forms use хот-. Пить and есть are short verbs whose forms you must learn as they stand; note that the ё in пьёшь is always stressed.

	ХОТЕ́ТЬ (TO WANT)	ПИТЬ (TO DRINK)	ЕСТЬ (TO EAT)
я (I) *YAH*	**хочу́** *khah-CHOO*	**пью** *PYOO*	**ем** *YEM*
ты (you, informal) *TIH*	**хо́чешь** *KHOH-cheesh*	**пьёшь** *PYOHSH*	**ешь** *YESH*
он, она́ (he, she) *OHN, ah-NAH*	**хо́чет** *KHOH-cheet*	**пьёт** *PYOHT*	**ест** *YEST*
мы (we) *MIH*	**хоти́м** *khah-TEEM*	**пьём** *PYOHM*	**еди́м** *yee-DEEM*
вы (you, formal or plural) *VIH*	**хоти́те** *khah-TEE-tyeh*	**пьёте** *PYOH-tyeh*	**еди́те** *yee-DEE-tyeh*
они́ (they) *ah-NEE*	**хотя́т** *khah-TYAHT*	**пьют** *PYOOT*	**едя́т** *yee-DYAHT*

📖 Vocabulary — Словарь

20 key words. Gender: m = masculine, f = feminine, n = neuter, pl = plural.

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	**меню́**	*mee-NYOO*	menu	noun · n
2	**ко́фе**	*KOH-feh*	coffee	noun · m
3	**чай**	*CHAY*	tea	noun · m
4	**вода́**	*vah-DAH*	water	noun · f
5	**сок**	*SOHK*	juice	noun · m

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
6	**молоко́**	*mah-lah-KOH*	milk	noun · n
7	**хлеб**	*KHLYEP*	bread	noun · m
8	**суп**	*SOOP*	soup	noun · m
9	**борщ**	*BORSHCH*	borscht	noun · m
10	**блины́**	*blee-NIH*	pancakes	noun · pl
11	**сала́т**	*sah-LAHT*	salad	noun · m
12	**торт**	*TOHRT*	cake	noun · m
13	**счёт**	*SHCHOHT*	bill	noun · m
14	**вку́сно**	*FKOOS-nah*	tasty	adv
15	**здесь**	*ZDYEHS*	here	adv
16	**с собо́й**	*s sah-BOY*	to take away	phrase
17	**вот**	*VOHT*	here is	phrase
18	**ещё**	*yee-SHCHOH*	more, still, else	adv
19	**да́йте**	*DAY-tyeh*	give (formal)	verb
20	**что**	*SHTOH*	what	pron

✍️ Try It Yourself — Упражнения

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Order a coffee politely.

▼ Show answer

Мне, пожа´луйста, ко´фе. (MNYEH, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah, KOH-feh.)

2. Say you would like tea and pancakes.

▼ Show answer

Мне чай и блины´, пожа´луйста. (MNYEH CHAY ee blee-NIH, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah.)

3. The waiter asks "Здесь или с собой?" You want to take it away. Answer.

▼ Show answer

С собо´й, пожа´луйста. (s sah-BOY, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah.)

4. Ask for water: "Give me water, please."

▼ Show answer

Да´йте, пожа´луйста, во´ду. (DAY-tyeh, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah, VOH-doo.)

5. Ask for the bill.

▼ Show answer

Счёт, пожа´луйста. (SHCHOHT, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah.)

6. Tell a friend you are hungry.

▼ Show answer

Я хочу´ есть. (YAH khah-CHOO YEST.)

Not Yet Verified

Checked (one web search on 2026-11-16): that *Что-нибудь ещё?* is how a waiter asks "anything else?"; that *Мо´жно меню´, пожа´луйста?* and *Что вы бу´дете?* are used in a restaurant; that *Да´йте мне …, пожа´луйста* is a common ordering pattern; and that *Вода´, пожа´луйста* is a neutral way to ask for water (sources: gw2ru.com: phrases for a café, learnrussianineu.com: how to order food, from search results only, the pages themselves were not read in full).

Not checked, from general knowledge: *Мне, пожа́луйста, …, Здесь и́ли с собо́й?, Я хоте́л бы*, the accusative *-у* and the forms *во́ду, ка́шу, пи́цу*, the *с / без* phrases, the descriptions of блины́, пирожки́, сы́рники and борщ, the verb forms, every stress mark and English respelling. No dictionary or pronunciation source was consulted. Check a Russian dictionary or a native speaker before relying on them.

Coming Up in Chapter 9

Shopping and prices: **Ско́лько сто́ит?** ("how much does it cost?"), roubles and kopeks, the pattern *1 рубль, 2 рубля́, 5 рубле́й*, **до́рого / дёшево** ("expensive / cheap"), and **Мо́жно ка́ртой?** ("can I pay by card?").

🛍️ Shopping & Prices — В магазине

In this chapter you will ask what things cost, understand prices up to a thousand roubles and beyond, say that something is expensive or cheap, ask for a size and a colour, and pay by card. The pattern for money is the same as the one you learned for age in Chapter 3. Service chapters default to formal ***вы****. Every Russian word has a stress mark and a respelling, as before (CAPITALS = the stressed syllable).*

① How Much Does It Cost? — Сколько это стоит?

A:

Здра́вствуйте! Ско́лько э́то сто́ит?

ZDRAH-stvooy-tyeh! SKOHL-kah EH-tah STOH-eet?

Hello! How much does this cost?

B:

Три́ста рубле́й.

TREE-stah roob-LYAY.

Three hundred roubles.

A:

Хорошо́. Я возьму́.

khah-rah-SHOH. YAH vahz-MOO.

Fine. I'll take it.

② Too Expensive — Слишком дорого

A:

Ско́лько сто́ит э́то?

SKOHL-kah STOH-eet EH-tah?

How much is this?

B:

Ты́сяча рубле́й.

TIH-syah-chah roob-LYAY.

One thousand roubles.

A:

О́чень до́рого! Мо́жно подеше́вле?

OH-chihn DOH-rah-gah! MOH-zhnah pah-dee-SHEHV-lyeh?

Very expensive! Can it be cheaper?

③ Size and Colour — Размер и цвет

A:

У вас есть кра́сная футбо́лка?

oo VAHS YEST KRAHS-nah-yah foot-BOHL-kah?

Do you have a red T-shirt?

④ Paying by Card — Можно картой?

A:

Ско́лько всего́?

SKOHL-kah fsee-VOH?

How much is it in total?

B:

Да, есть. Како́й у вас разме́р?

DAH, YEST. kah-KOY oo VAHS rahz-MYEHR?

Yes, we do. What size are you?

A:

Со́рок шесть.

SOH-rahk SHEST.

Forty-six.

B:

Вот, пожа́луйста.

VOHT, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah.

Here you are.

B:

Две ты́сячи рубле́й.

DVYEH TIH-syah-chee roob-LYAY.

Two thousand roubles.

A:

Мо́жно ка́ртой?

MOH-zhnah KAHR-toy?

Can I pay by card?

B:

Да, мо́жно.

DAH, MOH-zhnah.

Yes, you can.

⑤ Two Friends (informal) — Это дорого?

A:

Э́то до́рого?

EH-tah DOH-rah-gah?

Is it expensive?

B:

Нет, э́то дёшево!

NYET, EH-tah DYOH-shih-vah!

No, it's cheap!

A:

Ско́лько?

SKOHL-kah?

How much?

B:

Сто рубле́й.

STOH roob-LYAY.

A hundred roubles.

⑥ At the Shop — В магазине

A:

У вас есть хлеб?

oo VAHS YEST KHLYEP?

Do you have bread?

B:

Да, есть.

DAH, YEST.

Yes, we do.

A:

Ско́лько сто́ит?

SKOHL-kah STOH-eet?

How much is it?

B:

Со́рок пять рубле́й.

SOH-rahk PYAHT roob-LYAY.

Forty-five roubles.

A:

Да́йте, пожа́луйста.

DAY-tyeh, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah.

Give me one, please.

🔑 Key Phrases — Ключевые фразы

SITUATION	FORMAL (ВЫ)	INFORMAL (ТЫ)
How much does it cost?	**Ско́лько э́то сто́ит?** *SKOHL-kah EH-tah STOH-eet*	**Ско́лько э́то сто́ит? / Почём?** *SKOHL-kah EH-tah STOH-eet / pah-CHYOM*
How much in total?	**Ско́лько всего́?** *SKOHL-kah fsee-VOH*	**Ско́лько всего́?** *SKOHL-kah fsee-VOH*
Do you have ...?	**У вас есть ...?** *oo VAHS YEST*	**У вас есть ...?** *oo VAHS YEST*
I'll take it	**Я возьму́.** *YAH vahz-MOO*	**Я возьму́.** *YAH vahz-MOO*
It's expensive / cheap	**До́рого. / Дёшево.** *DOH-rah-gah / DYOH-shih-vah*	**До́рого. / Дёшево.** *DOH-rah-gah / DYOH-shih-vah*
Can it be cheaper?	**Мо́жно подеше́вле?** *MOH-zhnah pah-dee-SHEHV-lyeh*	**Мо́жно подеше́вле?** *MOH-zhnah pah-dee-SHEHV-lyeh*
What size are you?	**Како́й у вас разме́р?** *kah-KOY oo VAHS rahz-MYEHR*	**Како́й у тебя́ разме́р?** *kah-KOY oo tee-BYAH rahz-MYEHR*
Can I pay by card?	**Мо́жно ка́ртой?** *MOH-zhnah KAHR-toy*	**Мо́жно ка́ртой?** *MOH-zhnah KAHR-toy*

Мо́жно — The Most Useful Word in a Shop

Мо´жно means "may I", "can I" or "is it possible", and it needs no verb: *Мо´жно ка´ртой?* ("can I pay by card?"), *Мо´жно меню´?* ("may I have the menu?"), *Мо´жно подеше´вле?* ("can it be cheaper?"). **Почём?** is a short, informal way to ask a price, common at markets: *Почём я´блоки?* ("how much are the apples?").

💯 Numbers to 1000 — Числа до тысячи

Prices need the hundreds. You already know 1 to 100 from Chapter 3; add the hundreds and put them in front: три́ста со́рок пять is 345.

NUMBER	RUSSIAN	SAY IT
100	**сто**	*STOH*
200	**две́сти**	*DVYEH-stee*
300	**три́ста**	*TREE-stah*
400	**четы́реста**	*chee-TIH-ree-stah*
500	**пятьсо́т**	*peet-SOHT*
600	**шестьсо́т**	*shist-SOHT*
700	**семьсо́т**	*seem-SOHT*
800	**восемьсо́т**	*vah-seem-SOHT*
900	**девятьсо́т**	*dee-veet-SOHT*
1000	**ты́сяча**	*TIH-syah-chah*

Joining them

NUMBER	RUSSIAN	SAY IT
150	**сто пятьдеся́т**	*STOH peet-dee-SYAHT*
345	**три́ста со́рок пять**	*TREE-stah SOH-rahk PYAHT*
999	**девятьсо́т девяно́сто де́вять**	*dee-veet-SOHT dee-vee-NOH-stah DYEH-veet*
1 250	**ты́сяча две́сти пятьдеся́т**	*TIH-syah-chah DVYEH-stee peet-dee-SYAHT*

💰 Roubles and Kopeks — Рубли и копейки

*Money follows the same three-way rule as age (Chapter 3): after a number ending in **1** (not 11) the word is **рубль**, after **2, 3, 4** (not 12 to 14) it is **рубля́**, and after everything else it is **рубле́й**. Kopeks work the same way: **копе́йка, копе́йки, копе́ек**. A hundred kopeks make a rouble.*

WHEN THE NUMBER…	ROUBLES	KOPEKS
1, 21, 31 …	оди́н рубль · два́дцать оди́н рубль *ah-DEEN ROOBL · DVAH-tsaht ah-DEEN ROOBL*	одна́ копе́йка *ahd-NAH kah-PYAY-kah*
2, 3, 4, 22 …	два рубля́ · три рубля́ · два́дцать два рубля́ *DVAH roob-LYAH · TREE roob-LYAH · DVAH-tsaht DVAH roob-LYAH*	две копе́йки *DVYEH kah-PYAY-kee*
5 to 20, 25, 30, 100 …	пять рубле́й · оди́ннадцать рубле́й · сто рубле́й *PYAHT roob-LYAY · ah-DEE-nah-tsaht roob-LYAY · STOH roob-LYAY*	пять копе́ек *PYAHT kah-PYEH-eek*

A Case Box — Why Рубле́й?

After a number from 5 up, the noun appears in the **genitive plural**: *пять рубле́й* ("five of roubles"). After 2, 3 and 4 it appears in the genitive singular: *три рубля́*. The full case system comes in Russian Grammar. For prices, just learn the three forms of *рубль* and copy them. The word **ты́сяча** ("thousand") is followed by the same pattern: *ты́сяча рубле́й*.

👕 Things to Buy — Вещи

RUSSIAN	SAY IT	GENDER	ENGLISH
футбо́лка	*foot-BOHL-kah*	f	T-shirt
руба́шка	*roo-BAHSH-kah*	f	shirt

RUSSIAN	SAY IT	GENDER	ENGLISH
ку́ртка	*KOORT-kah*	f	jacket
джи́нсы	*JEEN-sih*	pl	jeans
су́мка	*SOOM-kah*	f	bag
кни́га	*KNEE-gah*	f	book

🎨 Colours — Цвета

Colour words are adjectives, so their endings agree with the gender of the thing described: кра́сный шарф is masculine, кра́сная футбо́лка is feminine and кра́сное пла́тье is neuter. ***Си́ний*** *is dark blue; light blue is a different word,* *голубо́й.*

COLOUR	MASCULINE	FEMININE	NEUTER
red	**кра́сный** *KRAHS-nih*	**кра́сная** *KRAHS-nah-yah*	**кра́сное** *KRAHS-nah-yeh*
blue (dark)	**си́ний** *SEE-nee*	**си́няя** *SEE-nyah-yah*	**си́нее** *SEE-nyeh-yeh*
green	**зелёный** *zee-LYOH-nih*	**зелёная** *zee-LYOH-nah-yah*	**зелёное** *zee-LYOH-nah-yeh*
black	**чёрный** *CHYOR-nih*	**чёрная** *CHYOR-nah-yah*	**чёрное** *CHYOR-nah-yeh*
white	**бе́лый** *BYEH-lih*	**бе́лая** *BYEH-lah-yah*	**бе́лое** *BYEH-lah-yeh*
yellow	**жёлтый** *ZHOHL-tih*	**жёлтая** *ZHOHL-tah-yah*	**жёлтое** *ZHOHL-tah-yeh*
grey	**се́рый** *SYEH-rih*	**се́рая** *SYEH-rah-yah*	**се́рое** *SYEH-rah-yeh*

Say It Right — Рубль, Сто́ит, Всего́

Рубль ends in a soft sign after *б* and *л*, so it is *ROOBL*. In **сто´ит** the two vowels are said separately, *STOH-eet*. In **всего´** the *г* is said *в* (the *-ого* rule from Russian Alphabet 2): *fsee-VOH*.

🔤 Three Verbs — Глаголы

Покупа´ть follows the most common pattern (-ю, -ешь, -ет, -ем, -ете, -ют). Плати´ть follows the second pattern (-ишь, -ит, -им, -ите, -ят) with a change in the я form (плачу´, with ч for т). Брать is irregular: беру´, берёшь, берёт, берём, берёте, беру´т. The verb сто´ить ("to cost") is used almost only as сто´ит ("it costs") and сто´ят ("they cost", STOH-yaht).

	ПОКУПА́ТЬ (TO BUY)	ПЛАТИ́ТЬ (TO PAY)	БРАТЬ (TO TAKE)
я (I) *YAH*	покупа́ю *pah-koo-PAH-yoo*	плачу́ *plah-CHOO*	беру́ *bee-ROO*
ты (you, informal) *TIH*	покупа́ешь *pah-koo-PAH-yihsh*	пла́тишь *PLAH-teesh*	берёшь *bee-RYOHSH*
он, она́ (he, she) *OHN, ah-NAH*	покупа́ет *pah-koo-PAH-yiht*	пла́тит *PLAH-teet*	берёт *bee-RYOHT*
мы (we) *MIH*	покупа́ем *pah-koo-PAH-yihm*	пла́тим *PLAH-teem*	берём *bee-RYOHM*
вы (you, formal or plural) *VIH*	покупа́ете *pah-koo-PAH-yih-tyeh*	пла́тите *PLAH-tee-tyeh*	берёте *bee-RYOH-tyeh*
они́ (they) *ah-NEE*	покупа́ют *pah-koo-PAH-yoot*	пла́тят *PLAH-tyaht*	беру́т *bee-ROOT*

📖 Vocabulary — Словарь

20 key words. Gender: m = masculine, f = feminine, pl = plural.

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	**цена́**	*tsee-NAH*	price	noun · f
2	**рубль**	*ROOBL*	rouble	noun · m
3	**копе́йка**	*kah-PYAY-kah*	kopek	noun · f
4	**де́ньги**	*DYEHN-gee*	money	noun · pl
5	**ка́рта**	*KAHR-tah*	card	noun · f
6	**сто́ит**	*STOH-eet*	costs	verb
7	**мо́жно**	*MOH-zhnah*	may I, can I, it is possible	adv
8	**до́рого**	*DOH-rah-gah*	expensive	adv
9	**дёшево**	*DYOH-shih-vah*	cheap	adv
10	**футбо́лка**	*foot-BOHL-kah*	T-shirt	noun · f
11	**руба́шка**	*roo-BAHSH-kah*	shirt	noun · f
12	**ку́ртка**	*KOORT-kah*	jacket	noun · f
13	**су́мка**	*SOOM-kah*	bag	noun · f
14	**разме́р**	*rahz-MYEHR*	size	noun · m
15	**цвет**	*TSVYET*	colour	noun · m
16	**кра́сный**	*KRAHS-nih*	red	adj
17	**си́ний**	*SEE-nee*	blue (dark)	adj
18	**чёрный**	*CHYOR-nih*	black	adj
19	**бе́лый**	*BYEH-lih*	white	adj
20	**ты́сяча**	*TIH-syah-chah*	thousand	noun · f

✍️ Try It Yourself — Упражнения

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Ask how much something costs.

▼ Show answer

Ско́лько э́то сто́ит? (SKOHL-kah EH-tah STOH-eet?)

2. Say "It's expensive!" and "It's cheap!"

▼ Show answer

До́рого! · Дёшево! (DOH-rah-gah! · DYOH-shih-vah!)

3. Say "1 rouble", "22 roubles" and "5 roubles".

▼ Show answer

оди́н рубль · два́дцать два рубля́ · пять рубле́й (ah-DEEN ROOBL · DVAH-tsaht DVAH roob-LYAH · PYAHT roob-LYAY)

4. Ask whether you can pay by card.

▼ Show answer

Мо́жно ка́ртой? (MOH-zhnah KAHR-toy?)

5. Ask a shop assistant whether they have a red T-shirt.

▼ Show answer

У вас есть кра́сная футбо́лка? (oo VAHS YEST KRAHS-nah-yah foot-BOHL-kah?)

6. Say "300 roubles" and "1000 roubles".

▼ Show answer

три´ста рубле´й · ты´сяча рубле´й (TREE-stah roob-LYAY · TIH-syah-chah roob-LYAY)

Not Yet Verified

Checked (one web search on 2026-11-16): that *Ско´лько э´то сто´ит?* and *Ско´лько сто´ит?* are the core price questions and *Почём э´то?* is another; that a number changes the noun after it (*пятьдеся´т рубле´й*, *три´ста рубле´й*); and that *Мо´жно подеше´вле?* is used to ask for a lower price (sources: gw2ru.com: phrases for a store, bridgetomoscow.com: how much does it cost, from search results only, the pages themselves were not read in full).
Not checked, from general knowledge: *Мо´жно ка´ртой?* (the search found nothing on card payment), the colour words and their forms, *разме´р* and the size numbers, the hundreds and their respellings, the kopek forms, *Я возьму´*, *Ско´лько всего´?*, the vocabulary for clothes, the verb forms, every stress mark and English respelling. No dictionary or pronunciation source was consulted. Check a Russian dictionary or a native speaker before relying on them.

Coming Up in Chapter 10

Asking for directions: **Где нахо´дится …?** ("where is …?"), **Как пройти´ …?** ("how do I get to …?"), **нале´во, напра´во, пря´мо** ("left, right, straight on"), and the Moscow metro.

🧭 Asking for Directions — Как пройти?

In this chapter you will ask where a place is, ask how to get there, understand the answer (straight on, left, right, next to, opposite), and find your way around a metro station. One new ending does most of the work: the genitive form of the place name, which you met in Chapter 5 with нет. Service chapters default to formal **вы**. *Every Russian word has a stress mark and a respelling, as before (CAPITALS = the stressed syllable).*

① Where Is the Metro? — Где станция метро?

A:

Извини́те, где нахо́дится ста́нция метро́?

eez-vee-NEE-tyeh, GDYEH nah-KHOH-dee-tsah STAHN-tsee-yah mee-TROH?

Excuse me, where is the metro station?

B:

Она́ там, напра́во.

ah-NAH TAHM, nah-PRAH-vah.

It's there, on the right.

A:

Э́то далеко́?

EH-tah dah-lee-KOH?

Is it far?

B:

Нет, недалеко́. Пять мину́т пешко́м.

NYET, nee-dah-lee-KOH. PYAHT mee-NOOT peesh-KOHM.

No, not far. Five minutes on foot.

② Going Straight — Идите прямо

A:

Как пройти́ до музе́я?

KAHK prahy-TEE dah moo-ZYEH-yah?

How do I get to the museum?

B:

Иди́те пря́мо, потом нале́во.

ee-DEE-tyeh PRYAH-mah, pah-TOHM nah-LYEH-vah.

Go straight on, then left.

A:

Спаси́бо!

spah-SEE-bah!

Thank you!

③ To the Station — До вокзала

A:

Извини́те, как пройти́ до вокза́ла?

eez-vee-NEE-tyeh, KAHK prahy-TEE dah vahk-ZAH-lah?

Excuse me, how do I get to the train station?

B:

Поверни́те напра́во. Вокза́л ря́дом с гости́ницей.

pah-veer-NEE-tyeh nah-PRAH-vah. vahk-ZAHL RYAH-dahm z gah-STEE-nee-tsay.

Turn right. The station is next to the hotel.

A:

Большо́е спаси́бо!

bahl-SHOH-yeh spah-SEE-bah!

Thank you very much!

④ The Pharmacy and the Bank — Аптека и банк

A:

Где нахо́дится апте́ка?

GDYEH nah-KHOH-dee-tsah ahp-TYEH-kah?

Where is the pharmacy?

B:

Апте́ка напро́тив магази́на.

ahp-TYEH-kah nah-PROH-teef mah-gah-ZEE-nah.

The pharmacy is opposite the shop.

A:

А банк?

AH BAHNK?

And the bank?

B:

Банк о́коло па́рка.

BAHNK OH-kah-lah PAHR-kah.

The bank is near the park.

⑤ Two Friends (informal) — Иди прямо!

A:

Где ты?

GDYEH TIH?

Where are you?

B:

Я о́коло ста́нции метро́. Иди́ пря́мо!

YAH OH-kah-lah STAHN-tsee-ee mee-TROH. ee-DEE PRYAH-mah!

I'm near the metro station. Go straight on!

A:

Хорошо́, иду́.

⑥ At the Metro — Где выход?

A:

Извини́те, где вы́ход в го́род?

eez-vee-NEE-tyeh, GDYEH VIH-khaht v GOH-raht?

Excuse me, where is the exit to the city?

B:

Вы́ход там, нале́во.

VIH-khaht TAHM, nah-LYEH-vah.

The exit is there, on the left.

A:

А я не зна́ю, где вход.

AH YAH nee ZNAH-yoo, GDYEH FKHOHT.

khah-rah-SHOH, ee-DOO.

OK, I'm coming.

And I don't know where the entrance is.

B:

Вот он, напра́во.

VOHT OHN, nah-PRAH-vah.

Here it is, on the right.

🔑 Key Phrases — Ключевые фразы

SITUATION	FORMAL (ВЫ)	INFORMAL (ТЫ)
Where is ...?	**Где нахо́дится ...?** *GDYEH nah-KHOH-dee-tsah*	**Где ...?** *GDYEH*
How do I get to ...?	**Как пройти́ до ...?** *KAHK prahy-TEE dah*	**Как пройти́ до ...?** *KAHK prahy-TEE dah*
Go straight on	**Иди́те пря́мо.** *ee-DEE-tyeh PRYAH-mah*	**Иди́ пря́мо.** *ee-DEE PRYAH-mah*
Turn left / right	**Поверни́те нале́во / напра́во.** *pah-veer-NEE-tyeh nah-LYEH-vah / nah-PRAH-vah*	**Поверни́ нале́во / напра́во.** *pah-veer-NEE nah-LYEH-vah / nah-PRAH-vah*
Is it far?	**Э́то далеко́?** *EH-tah dah-lee-KOH*	**Э́то далеко́?** *EH-tah dah-lee-KOH*
It's near	**Э́то бли́зко.** *EH-tah BLEES-kah*	**Э́то бли́зко.** *EH-tah BLEES-kah*
Five minutes on foot	**Пять мину́т пешко́м.** *PYAHT mee-NOOT peesh-KOHM*	**Пять мину́т пешко́м.** *PYAHT mee-NOOT peesh-KOHM*
I don't know	**Я не зна́ю.** *YAH nee ZNAH-yoo*	**Я не зна́ю.** *YAH nee ZNAH-yoo*

Two Question Frames

Где нахо´дится …? ("where is …?") is followed by the place in its ordinary form: *Где нахо´дится апте´ка?* **Как пройти´ до …?** ("how do I get to …?") is followed by the place in the **genitive**: *Как пройти´ до музе´я?* You will also hear *Как пройти´ в музе´й?* and *Как пройти´ на вокза´л?* with *в* or *на*, which is another correct way to ask. The word *нахо´дится* ends in *-ться*, said *tsah* (Russian Alphabet 2): *nah-KHOH-dee-tsah*.

📍 Places — Места

*Each place with the genitive form used after **до** ("as far as"), **о´коло** ("near") and **напро´тив** ("opposite").*

THE PLACE	AFTER ДО / ОКОЛО / НАПРОТИВ
музе́й *moo-ZYAY* museum	**музе́я** *moo-ZYEH-yah*
вокза́л *vahk-ZAHL* train station	**вокза́ла** *vahk-ZAH-lah*
парк *PAHRK* park	**па́рка** *PAHR-kah*
банк *BAHNK* bank	**ба́нка** *BAHN-kah*
апте́ка *ahp-TYEH-kah* pharmacy	**апте́ки** *ahp-TYEH-kee*
библиоте́ка *beeb-lee-ah-TYEH-kah* library	**библиоте́ки** *beeb-lee-ah-TYEH-kee*

THE PLACE	AFTER ДО / ОКОЛО / НАПРОТИВ
ста́нция метро́ *STAHN-tsee-yah mee-TROH* metro station	**ста́нции метро́** *STAHN-tsee-ee mee-TROH*
остано́вка *ah-stah-NOHF-kah* bus stop	**остано́вки** *ah-stah-NOHF-kee*
гости́ница *gah-STEE-nee-tsah* hotel	**гости́ницы** *gah-STEE-nee-tsih*
магази́н *mah-gah-ZEEN* shop	**магази́на** *mah-gah-ZEE-nah*

A Case Box — The Genitive Endings

A masculine word ending in a **consonant** adds **-а** (*парк → па´рка, магази´н → магази´на*); one ending in **-й** changes *-й* to **-я** (*музе´й → музе´я*). A feminine word ending in **-а** changes to **-ы** (*гости´ница → гости´ницы*), or **-и** after к (*апте´ка → апте´ки*). A word ending in **-ция** changes to **-ции** (*ста´нция → ста´нции*). The word *метро´* never changes. This is the same ending you met in Chapter 5 after *нет*.

↔️ Right, Left, Straight — Направо, налево, прямо

*The three basic directions are **нале´во** ("to the left"), **напра´во** ("to the right") and **пря´мо** ("straight on"). To give an instruction, use the polite command forms **Иди´те** ("go") and **Поверни´те** ("turn"), and **пото´м** ("then") to link them: Иди´те пря´мо, пото´м нале´во. With ты, drop the -те: Иди´, Поверни´.*

Direction or Location?

Нале´во and **напра´во** describe the **direction you move** ("turn left"). To say **where something is** ("it is on the left"), Russian often uses **сле´ва** and **спра´ва**: *Банк сле´ва* ("the bank

is on the left"). In a quick answer, passers-by will often use *нале́во / напра́во* for both, and you will be understood either way.

🏙️ Next To, Opposite, Near — Рядом, напротив, около

*After **напро́тив** and **о́коло** the place takes the genitive form from the table above. After **ря́дом с** ("next to") it takes a different ending, the **instrumental**: ря́дом с ба́нком, ря́дом с гости́ницей. Learn these as ready-made phrases.*

MEANING	RUSSIAN	SAY IT
next to the bank	**ря́дом с ба́нком**	*RYAH-dahm z BAHN-kahm*
next to the hotel	**ря́дом с гости́ницей**	*RYAH-dahm z gah-STEE-nee-tsay*
opposite the shop	**напро́тив магази́на**	*nah-PROH-teef mah-gah-ZEE-nah*
near the park	**о́коло па́рка**	*OH-kah-lah PAHR-kah*
near the metro station	**о́коло ста́нции метро́**	*OH-kah-lah STAHN-tsee-ee mee-TROH*

🚇 The Metro — Метро

The metro is the quickest way round Moscow and Saint Petersburg, and its signs are in capital letters without stress marks. You already know every letter, so read these aloud:

ON THE SIGN	IN LOWER CASE, WITH STRESS	MEANING
ВХОД	**вход** *FKHOHT*	entrance
ВЫХОД	**вы́ход** *VIH-khaht*	exit
ВЫХОД В ГОРОД	**вы́ход в го́род** *VIH-khaht v GOH-raht*	exit to the city

ON THE SIGN	IN LOWER CASE, WITH STRESS	MEANING
ПЕРЕХОД	перехо́д *pee-ree-KHOHT*	transfer, passage to another line

Real Russian Tip — Take a Ride Just to Look

The Moscow and Saint Petersburg metros are known for their decorated stations, and many visitors ride a few stops purely to look at them. If you are lost in one, the three signs above (*вход*, *вы´ход*, *перехо´д*) are all you need to find your way.

Say It Right — Пешко́м, Ря́дом, Вход

Пешко´м ("on foot") is *peesh-KOHM*. In **ря´дом с** the *с* before a voiced sound becomes *z*: *RYAH-dahm z BAHN-kahm*. In **вход** the final *д* loses its voice, and the *в* sounds like *f* before *х*: *FKHOHT*.

🔤 Three Verbs — Глаголы

Идти´ ("to go on foot") and е´хать ("to go by transport") are two different verbs in Russian, so you choose according to how you travel. Идти´ has the forms иду´, идёшь, идёт, идём, идёте, иду´т; е´хать has е´ду, е´дешь, е´дет, е´дем, е´дете, е´дут. Спра´шивать follows the most common pattern. You will use е´хать again in Chapter 12.

	ИДТИ́ (TO GO (ON FOOT))	Е́ХАТЬ (TO GO (BY TRANSPORT))	СПРА́ШИВАТЬ (TO ASK)
я (I) *YAH*	иду́ *ee-DOO*	е́ду *YEH-doo*	спра́шиваю *SPRAH-shee-vah-yoo*
ты (you, informal) *TIH*	идёшь *ee-DYOHSH*	е́дешь *YEH-deesh*	спра́шиваешь *SPRAH-shee-vah-yihsh*
он, она́ (he, she) *OHN, ah-NAH*	идёт *ee-DYOHT*	е́дет *YEH-deet*	спра́шивает *SPRAH-shee-vah-yiht*

	ИДТИ́ (TO GO (ON FOOT))	Е́ХАТЬ (TO GO (BY TRANSPORT))	СПРА́ШИВАТЬ (TO ASK)
мы (we) *MIH*	идём *ee-DYOHM*	е́дем *YEH-deem*	спра́шиваем *SPRAH-shee-vah-yihm*
вы (you, formal or plural) *VIH*	идёте *ee-DYOH-tyeh*	е́дете *YEH-dee-tyeh*	спра́шиваете *SPRAH-shee-vah-yih-tyeh*
они́ (they) *ah-NEE*	иду́т *ee-DOOT*	е́дут *YEH-doot*	спра́шивают *SPRAH-shee-vah-yoot*

📖 Vocabulary — Словарь

20 key words. Gender: m = masculine, f = feminine, n = neuter.

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	ста́нция	*STAHN-tsee-yah*	station	noun · f
2	метро́	*mee-TROH*	metro, underground	noun · n
3	вокза́л	*vahk-ZAHL*	train station	noun · m
4	парк	*PAHRK*	park	noun · m
5	банк	*BAHNK*	bank	noun · m
6	апте́ка	*ahp-TYEH-kah*	pharmacy	noun · f
7	остано́вка	*ah-stah-NOHF-kah*	bus stop	noun · f
8	гости́ница	*gah-STEE-nee-tsah*	hotel	noun · f
9	вы́ход	*VIH-khaht*	exit	noun · m
10	вход	*FKHOHT*	entrance	noun · m

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
11	**нале́во**	*nah-LYEH-vah*	to the left	adv
12	**напра́во**	*nah-PRAH-vah*	to the right	adv
13	**пря́мо**	*PRYAH-mah*	straight on	adv
14	**ря́дом**	*RYAH-dahm*	next to, nearby	adv
15	**напро́тив**	*nah-PROH-teef*	opposite	prep
16	**о́коло**	*OH-kah-lah*	near	prep
17	**далеко́**	*dah-lee-KOH*	far	adv
18	**бли́зко**	*BLEES-kah*	near	adv
19	**там**	*TAHM*	there	adv
20	**пешко́м**	*peesh-KOHM*	on foot	adv

✍️ Try It Yourself — Упражнения

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Ask where the metro station is.

▼ Show answer

Где нахо´дится ста´нция метро´? (GDYEH nah-KHOH-dee-tsah STAHN-tsee-yah mee-TROH?)

2. Ask how to get to the museum.

▼ Show answer

Как пройти´ до музе´я? (KAHK prahy-TEE dah moo-ZYEH-yah?)

3. Tell someone (formally) to turn left.

▼ Show answer

Поверни´те нале´во. (pah-veer-NEE-tyeh nah-LYEH-vah.)

4. Say "The pharmacy is opposite the shop."

▼ Show answer

Апте´ка напро´тив магази´на. (ahp-TYEH-kah nah-PROH-teef mah-gah-ZEE-nah.)

5. Say "It's near. Five minutes on foot."

▼ Show answer

Э´то бли´зко. Пять мину´т пешко´м. (EH-tah BLEES-kah. PYAHT mee-NOOT peesh-KOHM.)

6. You do not know the way. Say "Sorry, I don't know."

▼ Show answer

Извини´те, я не зна´ю. (eez-vee-NEE-tyeh, YAH nee ZNAH-yoo.)

Not Yet Verified

Checked (one web search on 2026-11-16): that *прямо, налево, направо, напротив* and *рядом с* are the core direction words; that *Как пройти´ до ...?* takes the genitive and *Где нахо´дится ...?* takes the ordinary form; that answers use *иди´те пря´мо* and *поверни´те нале´во* with *пото´м*; that *слева / справа* describe location while *налево / направо* describe direction; and *Как пройти´ до метро´?* as a metro question (sources: fluentu.com: directions in Russian, gw2ru.com: you should go to the left, from search results only, the pages themselves were not read in full).

Not checked, from general knowledge: *Пять мину´т пешко´м* and the other ways to give walking time (the search found nothing); the metro words *вы´ход, вход, перехо´д* and the sign table; *Как пройти´ в ... / на ...*; the genitive and instrumental forms in the tables; the verb forms; every stress mark and English respelling. No dictionary or pronunciation source was consulted. Check a Russian dictionary or a native speaker before relying on them.

Coming Up in Chapter 11

Booking a hotel: **Я хоте́л бы заброни́ровать но́мер** ("I would like to book a room"), single and double rooms, nights, breakfast, **У меня́ бронь** ("I have a booking"), and checking in and out.

🏨 Booking a Hotel — В гостинице

In this chapter you will book a room, say how many nights you are staying, check in and out, ask about breakfast, and handle small requests. Hotels are a service setting, so everything here uses the formal ***вы****. Every Russian word has a stress mark and a respelling, as before (CAPITALS = the stressed syllable).*

① Booking a Room — Я хотел бы забронировать номер

A:

Здра́вствуйте! Я хоте́л бы заброни́ровать но́мер.

ZDRAH-stvooy-tyeh! YAH khah-TYEL bih zah-brah-NEE-rah-vaht NOH-meer.

Hello! I would like to book a room. (a man speaking)

B:

На ско́лько ноче́й?

nah SKOHL-kah nah-CHAY?

For how many nights?

A:

На три но́чи.

nah TREE NOH-chee.

For three nights.

B:

Одноме́стный и́ли двухме́стный?

ahd-nah-MYEHS-nih EE-lee dvookh-MYEHS-nih?

Single or double?

A:

② I Have a Booking — У меня бронь

A:

Здра́вствуйте! У меня́ бронь.

ZDRAH-stvooy-tyeh! oo mee-NYAH BROHN.

Hello! I have a booking.

B:

На каку́ю фами́лию?

nah kah-KOO-yoo fah-MEE-lee-yoo?

Under what surname?

A:

На фами́лию Бра́ун.

nah fah-MEE-lee-yoo BRAH-oon.

Under the surname Brown.

B:

Да, вот ваш ключ. Ваш но́мер — три́ста пять.

DAH, VOHT VAHSH KLYOOCH. VAHSH NOH-meer — TREE-stah PYAHT.

Yes, here is your key. Your room is 305.

A:

Спаси́бо.

spah-SEE-bah.

Thank you.

Одноме́стный, пожа́луйста.
ahd-nah-MYEHS-nih, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah.
Single, please.

③ Price and Breakfast — Завтрак включён?

A:

Ско́лько сто́ит но́мер?
SKOHL-kah STOH-eet NOH-meer?
How much is the room?

B:

Три ты́сячи рубле́й за ночь.
TREE TIH-syah-chee roob-LYAY zah NOHCH.
Three thousand roubles a night.

A:

За́втрак включён?
ZAHF-trahk fklyoo-CHOHN?
Is breakfast included?

B:

Да, за́втрак включён. С семи́ до десяти́.
DAH, ZAHF-trahk fklyoo-CHOHN. s see-MEE dah dee-see-TEE.
Yes, breakfast is included. From seven to ten.

④ Checking In — Ваш паспорт, пожалуйста

A:

Ваш па́спорт, пожа́луйста.
VAHSH PAHS-pahrt, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah.
Your passport, please. (the receptionist)

B:

Вот, пожа́луйста.
VOHT, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah.
Here you are.

A:

Запо́лните, пожа́луйста, анке́ту.
zah-POHL-nee-tyeh, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah, ahn-KYEH-too.
Please fill in this form.

B:

Хорошо́.
khah-rah-SHOH.
Fine.

⑤ Checking Out — Во сколько выезд?

A:

Во ско́лько вы́езд?
vah SKOHL-kah VIH-yeest?
What time is check-out?

B:

В двена́дцать часо́в.

⑥ Wi-Fi — Есть вай-фай?

A:

У вас в гости́нице есть Wi-Fi?
oo VAHS v gah-STEE-nee-tseh YEST VAY-fay?
Do you have Wi-Fi in the hotel?

B:

Да, есть.

v dvee-NAH-tsaht chee-SOHF.
At twelve o'clock.

A:

Мо́жно оста́вить су́мку?
MOH-zhnah ah-STAH-veet SOOM-koo?
Can I leave my bag?

B:

Да, коне́чно.
DAH, kah-NYEHSH-nah.
Yes, of course.

DAH, YEST.
Yes, we do.

A:

Како́й па́роль?
kah-KOY pah-ROHL?
What's the password?

B:

Па́роль — оди́н, два, три, четы́ре.
pah-ROHL — ah-DEEN, DVAH, TREE, chee-TIH-ree.
The password is one, two, three, four.

🔑 Key Phrases — Ключевые фразы

Hotels and reception desks use the formal register, so the two columns are the same. The only difference is the choice of хоте́л бы (a man) or хоте́ла бы (a woman).

SITUATION	FORMAL (ВЫ)	INFORMAL (ТЫ)
I would like to book a room	**Я хоте́л бы / хоте́ла бы заброни́ровать но́мер.** *YAH khah-TYEL bih / khah-TYEH-lah bih zah-brah-NEE-rah-vaht NOH-meer*	**Я хоте́л бы / хоте́ла бы заброни́ровать но́мер.** *YAH khah-TYEL bih / khah-TYEH-lah bih zah-brah-NEE-rah-vaht NOH-meer*
I have a booking	**У меня́ бронь.** *oo mee-NYAH BROHN*	**У меня́ бронь.** *oo mee-NYAH BROHN*
Under the surname …	**На фами́лию …** *nah fah-MEE-lee-yoo*	**На фами́лию …** *nah fah-MEE-lee-yoo*
For how many nights?	**На ско́лько ночей́?** *nah SKOHL-kah nah-CHAY*	**На ско́лько ночей́?** *nah SKOHL-kah nah-CHAY*
A single / double room	**Одноме́стный / двухме́стный но́мер.**	**Одноме́стный / двухме́стный но́мер.**

SITUATION	FORMAL (ВЫ)	INFORMAL (ТЫ)
	ahd-nah-MYEHS-nih / dvookh-MYEHS-nih NOH-meer	*ahd-nah-MYEHS-nih / dvookh-MYEHS-nih NOH-meer*
How much a night?	**Ско́лько сто́ит но́мер за ночь?** *SKOHL-kah STOH-eet NOH-meer zah NOHCH*	**Ско́лько сто́ит но́мер за ночь?** *SKOHL-kah STOH-eet NOH-meer zah NOHCH*
Is breakfast included?	**За́втрак включён?** *ZAHF-trahk fklyoo-CHOHN*	**За́втрак включён?** *ZAHF-trahk fklyoo-CHOHN*
What time is check-out?	**Во ско́лько вы́езд? / Во ско́лько расчётный час?** *vah SKOHL-kah VIH-yeest / vah SKOHL-kah rah-SHCHOHT-nih CHAHS*	**Во ско́лько вы́езд?** *vah SKOHL-kah VIH-yeest*
Here is my passport	**Вот мой па́спорт.** *VOHT MOY PAHS-pahrt*	**Вот мой па́спорт.** *VOHT MOY PAHS-pahrt*
Can I leave my bag?	**Мо́жно оста́вить су́мку?** *MOH-zhnah ah-STAH-veet SOOM-koo*	**Мо́жно оста́вить су́мку?** *MOH-zhnah ah-STAH-veet SOOM-koo*

Забронировать — A Small Note on the Verb

Заброни́ровать ("to book") has a small prefix *за-* that shows the booking will be *completed*: you want a finished booking. This is called the **perfective** form of the verb, and Russian Basic Conversation 2 explains it. For now, use *Я хоте́л бы заброни́ровать* as a ready-made phrase. The ordinary form, *брони́ровать*, is the one in the verb table below.

🌙 Nights and Days — Ночи и дни

To say how long you are staying, use **на** *plus the number and the word for "night" or "day": на три но́чи, "for three nights". The word changes after the number, in the same three ways as год / года / лет in Chapter 3.*

WHEN THE NUMBER…	NIGHT	DAY	EXAMPLE
ends in 1 (not 11)	**ночь** *NOHCH*	**день** *DYEN*	**одна́ ночь · два́дцать оди́н день**
ends in 2, 3, 4 (not 12 to 14)	**но́чи** *NOH-chee*	**дня** *DNYAH*	**три но́чи · четы́ре дня**
everything else	**ночей** *nah-CHAY*	**дней** *DNYAY*	**пять ночей · де́сять дней**

For how long

MEANING	RUSSIAN	SAY IT
for one night	**на одну́ ночь**	*nah ahd-NOO NOHCH*
for two nights	**на две но́чи**	*nah DVYEH NOH-chee*
for three nights	**на три но́чи**	*nah TREE NOH-chee*
for five nights	**на пять ночей**	*nah PYAHT nah-CHAY*
for three days	**на три дня**	*nah TREE DNYAH*
for a week	**на неде́лю**	*nah nee-DYEH-lyoo*

A Case Box — На одну́ ночь, на неде́лю

After **на** in the meaning "for (a length of time)", a feminine word ending in **-а** or **-я** changes to **-у** or **-ю**, as with *вода́ → во́ду* in Chapter 8 (the **accusative**): *ночь* stays *ночь*, but the number *одна́* becomes *одну́*, and *неде́ля → на неде́лю*. For 2 to 4 nights and above, the number and the plural form of the noun do the work: *на три но́чи, на пять ноче́й*.

🛏 Around the Hotel — В гостинице

RUSSIAN	SAY IT	GENDER	ENGLISH
но́мер	*NOH-meer*	m	room (also: number)
ключ	*KLYOOCH*	m	key
па́спорт	*PAHS-pahrt*	m	passport
анке́та	*ahn-KYEH-tah*	f	form (to fill in)
ва́нная	*VAHN-nah-yah*	f	bathroom
душ	*DOOSH*	m	shower
за́втрак	*ZAHF-trahk*	m	breakfast
за́езд	*ZAH-yeest*	m	check-in, arrival
вы́езд	*VIH-yeest*	m	check-out, departure
администра́тор	*ahd-mee-nee-STRAH-tahr*	m	receptionist, manager

Real Russian Tip — Have Your Passport Ready

Russian hotels register foreign guests, so the receptionist will ask for your **па´спорт** at check-in, and you may be asked to fill in a short form (**анке´ту**). Keep your passport and, if you need one, your visa to hand. Also, *Wi-Fi* is said as in English, *ВАЙ-фай*, and **оте´ль** is another word for a hotel in everyday speech, besides *гости´ница*.

Say It Right — Ключ, Включён, Завтрак

Ключ ends in *ч*: *KLYOOCH*. In **включён** the *в* is said like *f* and the *ё* is stressed: *fklyoo-CHOHN*. In **за´втрак** the *в* is said *f* and the final *к* is clear: *ZAHF-trahk*.

🔤 Three Verbs — Глаголы

Брони´ровать and заполня´ть follow the most common pattern (-ю, -ешь, -ет, -ем, -ете, -ют), with -ую and -уем for брони´ровать. Остана´вливаться ("to stay at a hotel") is a reflexive verb: the ending -ся or -сь is added at the end, as with учи´ться in Chapter 6.

	БРОНИ́РОВАТЬ (TO BOOK)	ОСТАНА́ВЛИВАТЬСЯ (TO STAY (AT A HOTEL))	ЗАПОЛНЯ́ТЬ (TO FILL IN)
я (I) *YAH*	**брони́рую** *brah-NEE-roo-yoo*	**остана́вливаюсь** *ah-stah-NAHV-lee-vah-yoos*	**заполня́ю** *zah-pahl-NYAH-yoo*
ты (you, informal) *TIH*	**брони́руешь** *brah-NEE-roo-yihsh*	**остана́вливаешься** *ah-stah-NAHV-lee-vah-yihsh-sah*	**заполня́ешь** *zah-pahl-NYAH-yihsh*
он, она́ (he, she) *OHN, ah-NAH*	**брони́рует** *brah-NEE-roo-yiht*	**остана́вливается** *ah-stah-NAHV-lee-vah-yih-tsah*	**заполня́ет** *zah-pahl-NYAH-yiht*
мы (we) *MIH*	**брони́руем** *brah-NEE-roo-yihm*	**остана́вливаемся** *ah-stah-NAHV-lee-vah-yihm-sah*	**заполня́ем** *zah-pahl-NYAH-yihm*
вы (you, formal or plural) *VIH*	**брони́руете** *brah-NEE-roo-yih-tyeh*	**остана́вливаетесь** *ah-stah-NAHV-lee-vah-yih-tyees*	**заполня́ете** *zah-pahl-NYAH-yih-tyeh*
они́ (they) *ah-NEE*	**брони́руют** *brah-NEE-roo-yoot*	**остана́вливаются** *ah-stah-NAHV-lee-vah-yoot-sah*	**заполня́ют** *zah-pahl-NYAH-yoot*

📖 Vocabulary — Словарь

20 key words. Gender: m = masculine, f = feminine.

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	**но́мер**	*NOH-meer*	room; number	noun · m
2	**бронь**	*BROHN*	booking, reservation	noun · f
3	**ночь**	*NOHCH*	night	noun · f

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
4	**неде́ля**	*nee-DYEH-lyah*	week	noun · f
5	**одноме́стный**	*ahd-nah-MYEHS-nih*	single (room)	adj
6	**двухме́стный**	*dvookh-MYEHS-nih*	double (room)	adj
7	**за́втрак**	*ZAHF-trahk*	breakfast	noun · m
8	**включён**	*fklyoo-CHOHN*	included	adj
9	**ключ**	*KLYOOCH*	key	noun · m
10	**па́спорт**	*PAHS-pahrt*	passport	noun · m
11	**анке́та**	*ahn-KYEH-tah*	form	noun · f
12	**ва́нная**	*VAHN-nah-yah*	bathroom	noun · f
13	**душ**	*DOOSH*	shower	noun · m
14	**за́езд**	*ZAH-yeest*	check-in	noun · m
15	**вы́езд**	*VIH-yeest*	check-out	noun · m
16	**администра́тор**	*ahd-mee-nee-STRAH-tahr*	receptionist	noun · m
17	**гость**	*GOHST*	guest	noun · m
18	**за**	*ZAH*	for, per	prep
19	**оста́вить**	*ah-STAH-veet*	to leave (something)	verb
20	**заброни́ровать**	*zah-brah-NEE-rah-vaht*	to book	verb

✍️ Try It Yourself — Упражнения

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Say "I would like to book a room" (as a man).

▼ Show answer

Я хоте́л бы заброни́ровать но́мер. (YAH khah-TYEL bih zah-brah-NEE-rah-vaht NOH-meer.)

2. Say "for three nights" and "for five nights".

▼ Show answer

На три но́чи. · На пять ноче́й. (nah TREE NOH-chee · nah PYAHT nah-CHAY)

3. Tell the receptionist you have a booking.

▼ Show answer

У меня́ бронь. (oo mee-NYAH BROHN.)

4. Ask whether breakfast is included.

▼ Show answer

За́втрак включён? (ZAHF-trahk fklyoo-CHOHN?)

5. Ask what time check-out is.

▼ Show answer

Во ско́лько вы́езд? (vah SKOHL-kah VIH-yeest?)

6. Ask whether you can leave your bag.

▼ Show answer

Мо́жно оста́вить су́мку? (MOH-zhnah ah-STAH-veet SOOM-koo?)

Not Yet Verified

Checked (one web search on 2026-11-16): that *У меня́ бронь* is how to say you have a reservation, followed by *На фа́милию …*; *одноме́стный* and *двухме́стный но́мер* for single and double rooms; *За́втрак включён*; *Вы́езд* for check-out; *Во ско́лько расчётный час?* for

the check-out time; that foreign guests must show a passport at check-in; and that *на* plus the accusative gives a length of stay (sources: gw2ru.com: phrases for a hotel, elon.io: at the hotel, from search results only, the pages themselves were not read in full).

Not checked, from general knowledge: *На ско́лько ноче́й?* (the search did not find it); *На каку́ю фами́лию?*; *Я хоте́л бы заброни́ровать* and the note on the perfective; *Мо́жно оста́вить су́мку?*; *Запо́лните анке́ту*; the hours *с семи́ до десяти́*; *за́езд*; the night and day forms; the verb forms; every stress mark and English respelling. The hotel rules for foreign guests can change, so check them before you travel. No dictionary or pronunciation source was consulted. Check a Russian dictionary or a native speaker before relying on them.

Coming Up in Chapter 12

Getting around: trains, buses and tickets. **Оди́н биле́т до Санкт-Петербу́рга, пожа́луйста** ("one ticket to Saint Petersburg, please"), platforms, delays and changes, return and single tickets, and the Course Complete recap.

🚇 Getting Around — Билеты и транспорт

In this last chapter you will buy a ticket, say whether you want one way or a return, ask which platform a train leaves from and when, use buses and the metro, and say how you travel. Service settings use the formal ***вы****. Every Russian word has a stress mark and a respelling, as before (CAPITALS = the stressed syllable).*

① A Train Ticket — Билет на поезд

A:

Здра́вствуйте! Оди́н биле́т до Санкт-Петербу́рга, пожа́луйста.

ZDRAH-stvooy-tyeh! ah-DEEN bee-LYET dah sahnkt-pee-teer-BOOR-gah, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah.

Hello! One ticket to Saint Petersburg, please.

B:

На когда́?

nah kahg-DAH?

For when?

A:

На за́втра.

nah ZAHF-trah.

For tomorrow.

B:

В оди́н коне́ц и́ли туда́ и обра́тно?

v ah-DEEN kah-NYETS EE-lee too-DAH ee ahb-RAHT-nah?

One way or return?

A:

Туда́ и обра́тно.

② Which Platform? — С какой платформы?

A:

Извини́те, с како́й платфо́рмы отправля́ется по́езд на Москву́?

eez-vee-NEE-tyeh, s kah-KOY plaht-FOHR-mih aht-prahv-LYAH-yeh-tsah POH-yeest nah mahsk-VOO?

Excuse me, from which platform does the train to Moscow leave?

B:

С тре́тьей платфо́рмы.

s TRYEH-tyay plaht-FOHR-mih.

From platform three.

A:

Спаси́бо!

spah-SEE-bah!

Thank you!

too-DAH ee ahb-RAHT-nah.

Return.

③ On the Bus — В автобусе

A:

Э́тот авто́бус идёт до це́нтра?

EH-taht ahf-TOH-boos ee-DYOHT dah TSEHN-trah?

Does this bus go to the centre?

B:

Да, идёт.

DAH, ee-DYOHT.

Yes, it does.

A:

Ско́лько сто́ит биле́т?

SKOHL-kah STOH-eet bee-LYET?

How much is a ticket?

B:

Со́рок рубле́й.

SOH-rahk roob-LYAY.

Forty roubles.

④ Time of the Train — Во сколько?

A:

Во ско́лько отправля́ется по́езд?

vah SKOHL-kah aht-prahv-LYAH-yeh-tsah POH-yeest?

What time does the train leave?

B:

В во́семь часо́в.

v VOH-seem chee-SOHF.

At eight o'clock.

A:

А во ско́лько он прибыва́ет?

AH vah SKOHL-kah OHN pree-bih-VAH-yet?

And what time does it arrive?

B:

В три часа́.

f TREE chee-SAH.

At three o'clock.

⑤ Two Friends (informal) — Мы едем на метро

A:

Как мы е́дем?

KAHK MIH YEH-deem?

How are we going?

B:

Мы е́дем на метро́. Э́то бы́стро.

⑥ At the Ticket Office — Купе или плацкарт?

A:

Како́й биле́т вы хоти́те — в купе́ и́ли в плацка́рте?

kah-KOY bee-LYET VIH khah-TEE-tyeh — f koo-PYEH EE-lee f plahts-KAHR-tyeh?

Which ticket would you like — compartment or open carriage?

B:

MIH YEH-deem nah mee-TROH. EH-tah BIHST-rah.
We're going by metro. It's quick.

A:

Хорошо´! Я люблю´ метро´.
khah-rah-SHOH! YAH lyoob-LYOO mee-TROH.
Good! I like the metro.

В купе´, пожа´луйста.
f koo-PYEH, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah.
Compartment, please.

A:

Ваш па´спорт, пожа´луйста.
VAHSH PAHS-pahrt, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah.
Your passport, please.

B:

Вот.
VOHT.
Here.

🔑 Key Phrases — Ключевые фразы

SITUATION	FORMAL (ВЫ)	INFORMAL (ТЫ)
One ticket to …, please	**Оди́н биле́т до …, пожа́луйста.** *ah-DEEN bee-LYET dah … pah-ZHAH-loo-stah*	**Оди́н биле́т до …** *ah-DEEN bee-LYET dah*
One way	**В оди́н коне́ц.** *v ah-DEEN kah-NYETS*	**В оди́н коне́ц.** *v ah-DEEN kah-NYETS*
Return	**Туда́ и обра́тно.** *too-DAH ee ahb-RAHT-nah*	**Туда́ и обра́тно.** *too-DAH ee ahb-RAHT-nah*
From which platform?	**С како́й платфо́рмы?** *s kah-KOY plaht-FOHR-mih*	**С како́й платфо́рмы?** *s kah-KOY plaht-FOHR-mih*
What time does it leave?	**Во ско́лько отправля́ется?** *vah SKOHL-kah aht-prahv-LYAH-yeh-tsah*	**Во ско́лько отправля́ется?** *vah SKOHL-kah aht-prahv-LYAH-yeh-tsah*
What time does it arrive?	**Во ско́лько прибыва́ет?** *vah SKOHL-kah pree-bih-VAH-yet*	**Во ско́лько прибыва́ет?** *vah SKOHL-kah pree-bih-VAH-yet*

SITUATION	FORMAL (ВЫ)	INFORMAL (ТЫ)
Does this bus go to …?	**Э́тот авто́бус идёт до …?** *EH-taht ahf-TOH-boos ee-DYOHT dah*	**Э́тот авто́бус идёт до …?** *EH-taht ahf-TOH-boos ee-DYOHT dah*
Where is the bus stop?	**Где остано́вка?** *GDYEH ah-stah-NOHF-kah*	**Где остано́вка?** *GDYEH ah-stah-NOHF-kah*

One Way or Return?

В оди́н коне́ц (literally "in one end") means one way, and **туда́ и обра́тно** ("there and back") means return. At the ticket office you will hear *На когда́?* ("for when?"), answered with *на за́втра* ("for tomorrow") or *на сего́дня* ("for today").

🚌 Going By… — На чём?

*To say how you travel, use **на** plus the vehicle in the **prepositional** case, the same ending you used with в and на in Chapter 4: Мы е́дем на авто́бусе. Words that never change, such as метро́ and такси́, stay the same.*

THE VEHICLE	GOING BY IT
по́езд *POH-yeest* train	**на по́езде** *nah POH-yeez-dyeh*
авто́бус *ahf-TOH-boos* bus	**на авто́бусе** *nah ahf-TOH-boo-syeh*
метро́ *mee-TROH* metro	**на метро́** *nah mee-TROH*
трамва́й *trahm-VAY* tram	**на трамва́е** *nah trahm-VAH-yeh*

THE VEHICLE	GOING BY IT
такси́ *tahk-SEE* taxi	**на такси́** *nah tahk-SEE*
самолёт *sah-mah-LYOT* plane	**на самолёте** *nah sah-mah-LYOH-tyeh*

Е́хать or Идти́ Again

In Chapter 10 you learned *идти́* (on foot) and *е́хать* (by transport). With vehicles, use **е́хать**: *Я е́ду на по́езде*. But when you ask whether a bus or train *runs* somewhere, Russians say **идёт**: *Э́тот авто́бус идёт до це́нтра?* ("does this bus go to the centre?"). Learn that sentence as it stands.

🎟 Trains and Stations — Вокзал

RUSSIAN	SAY IT	GENDER	ENGLISH
биле́т	*bee-LYET*	m	ticket
платфо́рма	*plaht-FOHR-mah*	f	platform
вокза́л	*vahk-ZAHL*	m	train station
остано́вка	*ah-stah-NOHF-kah*	f	stop (bus, tram)
расписа́ние	*rah-spee-SAH-nee-yeh*	n	timetable
купе́	*koo-PYEH*	n	compartment (4 berths)
плацка́рт	*plahts-KAHRT*	m	open carriage with berths
ваго́н	*vah-GOHN*	m	carriage
ме́сто	*MYEH-stah*	n	seat, berth

RUSSIAN	SAY IT	GENDER	ENGLISH
пассажи́р	*pah-sah-ZHEER*	m	passenger

Real Russian Tip — Купе́ or Плацка́рт?

Long-distance Russian trains often have two kinds of ordinary carriage: **купе́**, a closed compartment with four berths, and **плацка́рт**, an open carriage with berths along the sides. Bring your passport when you buy a ticket for a long journey, and check the platform and time on the board before you go, since stations and times may change.

Say It Right — Билет, Платформа, Поезд

In **биле́т** the stress is on the second syllable: *bee-LYET*. In **по́езд** the *e* sounds like *yeh*, and the final *д* is said *t*: *POH-yeest*. In **платфо́рмы** the *ы* is the sound from Russian Alphabet 1: *plaht-FOHR-mih*.

Three Verbs — Глаголы

You know е́хать and покупа́ть already. Отправля́ться ("to depart") is a reflexive verb with the same pattern as -ся verbs in Chapter 6: По́езд отправля́ется в во́семь ("the train leaves at eight"). For arriving, use прибыва́ть: По́езд прибыва́ет в три.

	ÉХАТЬ (TO GO (BY TRANSPORT))	ПОКУПА́ТЬ (TO BUY)	ОТПРАВЛЯ́ТЬСЯ (TO LEAVE, DEPART)
я (I) *YAH*	е́ду *YEH-doo*	покупа́ю *pah-koo-PAH-yoo*	отправля́юсь *aht-prahv-LYAH-yoos*
ты (you, informal) *TIH*	е́дешь *YEH-deesh*	покупа́ешь *pah-koo-PAH-yihsh*	отправля́ешься *aht-prahv-LYAH-yihsh-sah*
он, она́ (he, she) *OHN, ah-NAH*	е́дет *YEH-deet*	покупа́ет *pah-koo-PAH-yiht*	отправля́ется *aht-prahv-LYAH-yeh-tsah*

	ÉХАТЬ (TO GO (BY TRANSPORT))	ПОКУПА́ТЬ (TO BUY)	ОТПРАВЛЯ́ТЬСЯ (TO LEAVE, DEPART)
мы (we) *MIH*	е́дем *YEH-deem*	покупа́ем *pah-koo-PAH-yihm*	отправля́емся *aht-prahv-LYAH-yihm-sah*
вы (you, formal or plural) *VIH*	е́дете *YEH-dee-tyeh*	покупа́ете *pah-koo-PAH-yih-tyeh*	отправля́етесь *aht-prahv-LYAH-yih-tyees*
они́ (they) *ah-NEE*	е́дут *YEH-doot*	покупа́ют *pah-koo-PAH-yoot*	отправля́ются *aht-prahv-LYAH-yoot-sah*

📖 Vocabulary — Словарь

20 key words. Gender: m = masculine, f = feminine, n = neuter.

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	биле́т	*bee-LYET*	ticket	noun · m
2	по́езд	*POH-yeest*	train	noun · m
3	авто́бус	*ahf-TOH-boos*	bus	noun · m
4	трамва́й	*trahm-VAY*	tram	noun · m
5	такси́	*tahk-SEE*	taxi	noun · n
6	платфо́рма	*plaht-FOHR-mah*	platform	noun · f
7	расписа́ние	*rah-spee-SAH-nee-yeh*	timetable	noun · n
8	купе́	*koo-PYEH*	compartment	noun · n
9	плацка́рт	*plahts-KAHRT*	open carriage	noun · m

#	RUSSIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
10	**ме́сто**	*MYEH-stah*	seat, berth	noun · n
11	**пассажи́р**	*pah-sah-ZHEER*	passenger	noun · m
12	**туда́**	*too-DAH*	there (going)	adv
13	**обра́тно**	*ahb-RAHT-nah*	back	adv
14	**коне́ц**	*kah-NYETS*	end	noun · m
15	**за́втра**	*ZAHF-trah*	tomorrow	adv
16	**сего́дня**	*see-VOHD-nyah*	today	adv
17	**бы́стро**	*BIHST-rah*	quickly, fast	adv
18	**отправля́ться**	*aht-prahv-LYAH-tsah*	to leave, depart	verb
19	**прибыва́ть**	*pree-bih-VAHT*	to arrive (trains)	verb
20	**сле́дующий**	*SLYEH-doo-yoo-shchee*	next	adj

✍️ Try It Yourself — Упражнения

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Ask for one ticket to Moscow.

▼ Show answer

Оди́н биле́т до Москвы́, пожа́луйста. (ah-DEEN bee-LYET dah mahsk-VIH, pah-ZHAH-loo-stah.)

2. Say "return" and "one way".

▼ Show answer

Туда́ и обра́тно. · В оди́н коне́ц. (too-DAH ee ahb-RAHT-nah · v ah-DEEN kah-NYETS)

3. Ask which platform the train leaves from.

▼ Show answer

С како́й платфо́рмы отправля́ется по́езд? (s kah-KOY plaht-FOHR-mih aht-prahv-LYAH-yeh-tsah POH-yeest?)

4. Ask what time the train leaves.

▼ Show answer

Во ско́лько отправля́ется по́езд? (vah SKOHL-kah aht-prahv-LYAH-yeh-tsah POH-yeest?)

5. Ask whether this bus goes to the centre.

▼ Show answer

Э́тот авто́бус идёт до це́нтра? (EH-taht ahf-TOH-boos ee-DYOHT dah TSEHN-trah?)

6. Say "We are going by metro."

▼ Show answer

Мы е́дем на метро́. (MIH YEH-deem nah mee-TROH.)

🏁 Course Complete — Вы молодцы!

You have finished Russian Basic Conversation 1. Twelve chapters, 72 dialogs and about 240 vocabulary words. Here is the whole course on one page, with one phrase from each chapter.

CHAPTER	TOPIC	A PHRASE TO KEEP
1	Greetings & Goodbyes	**Здра́вствуйте, Приве́т, До свида́ния**

CHAPTER	TOPIC	A PHRASE TO KEEP
2	Introducing Yourself	**Меня́ зову́т …, О́чень прия́тно**
3	Numbers, Age & Contact Details	**Мне два́дцать лет, год / го́да / лет**
4	Where You're From	**Я из …, Я живу́ в …**
5	Family	**У меня́ есть …, мой / моя́ / моё**
6	Jobs	**Кем вы рабо́таете?**
7	Days, Dates & Time	**Кото́рый час? В понеде́льник**
8	Ordering Food & Drink	**Мне, пожа́луйста …**
9	Shopping & Prices	**Ско́лько сто́ит? Мо́жно ка́ртой?**
10	Asking for Directions	**Как пройти́ до …? Напра́во, нале́во**
11	Booking a Hotel	**У меня́ бронь. На три́ но́чи**
12	Getting Around	**Оди́н биле́т до …**

What Comes Next

Russian Basic Conversation 2 continues with everyday situations (the phone, weather, hobbies, health and more), and **Russian Grammar 1** explains the cases, verb endings and the perfective that this course has used as ready-made phrases. *Вы молодцы́* means "well done", said to more than one person or politely to one.

Not Yet Verified

Checked (one web search on 2026-11-16): that *Оди́н биле́т до …* is the model for buying a ticket; that *в оди́н коне́ц* and *туда́ и обра́тно* mean one way and return; that platforms are asked about with *С како́й платфо́рмы?* (railway tracks are also called *пути́*, so *С како́го пути́?* is also heard); and that *расписа́ние* is the timetable (sources: lingust.ru: lesson 9, elon.io: at the station, Polyglot Club: travel and transportation, from search results only, the pages themselves were not read in full).

Not checked, from general knowledge: *поезд опаздывает* and *следующая остановка* (the

search found nothing, so they are not in the dialogs); *На когда?*; *купе* and *плацкарт* as described; the forms *по́езд / прибыва́ть / отправля́ться* with times; the use of *идёт* for buses; the prepositional forms in the vehicle table; the verb forms; the recap table; every stress mark and English respelling. Ticket rules, platforms and the need for a passport can change, so check them before you travel. No dictionary or pronunciation source was consulted. Check a Russian dictionary or a native speaker before relying on them.