

# Learning the Russian Alphabet

## These Letter are the same in English and Russian

A = A

E = E - the letter E is pronounced "ye" as in yet

K = K

M = M

O = O

T = T

## These Letters are printed as English Letters but pronounced differently

B = pronounced like the English - V

H = pronounced like the English - N

P = pronounced like the English - R

C = pronounced like the English - S

Y = pronounced like the English – OO

X = pronounced like the English – loch or ha

## Letters taken from Greek Alphabet

Г = pronounced like English - G

Д = pronounced like English - D

Л = pronounced like English - L

П = pronounced like English – P

Ф = pronounced like English – F

### **The next letters look familiar but are written backward**

Я = pronounced like the English - YA : as in “yard”

И = pronounced like the English – I : as in “machine”

Й = (N with an accent) equals the consonant Y

### **Do not confuse the next two letters**

З = (like the figure 3) pronounced like the English – Z : as in zone

Э = pronounced like the English – E : as in net

### **The next letter are of Hebrew Origin**

Ц = pronounced - ts : as in “pits or tsar”

Ч = pronounced – ch : as in “charm”

Ш = pronounced – sh : as in “ship”

Щ = pronounced – shch as in “fresh cheese”

### **Miscellaneous Group**

Ж = pronounced like – ZH : like the French “je” or English “measure”

Ю = pronounced like – U : as in “unite”

Ы = pronounced like – I : as in “him”

Б = pronounced like – B : as in “big”

**Two letters which are not really letters at all**

Ь = soft sign

Ъ = hard sign

These two by themselves have no sound their function is to change slightly the sound of letters they accompany.