



Here, you're going to learn 20 ways to say hello, 14 ways to say bye and 19 ways to say how are you. Total? You learn Russian 53 phrases in total.

**By the way, if you want to learn and speak Russian** with an actual program, I suggest [RussianPod101](#). You can learn even faster with audio/video lessons made by real teachers. So, if you're interested in learning Russian conversations, you'll love their conversation lessons.

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## 20 Unique Ways to Say Hello in Russian

### 1. Hello in Russian (casual)

- Привет
- Pronunciation: Privet



This is the most popular word in Russian language. And the most important word in this lesson. If you need to know JUST ONE way to say hello in Russian... it's privet. It's not a formal way to greet a person – you should not say [privet] to a boss, but if you see your friend – it's the best word to use. When you say it, try to make {i} and {e} very soft.

Now, there's a variation of this word. It's the next one.

## 2. Hello in Russian (super casual)

- privetik
- приветик



Young people, especially girls, like to upgrade this word saying [privetik]. Basically, in Russian, you can adjust words for various levels of formality. In this case, it becomes much more casual, nicer, friendlier and endearing. Surprising for a seemingly “rough” language, huh?

### 3. Hello (formal)

- Здравствуйте
- zdrastvooyte



This is general, formal way to say hello in Russian. If you meet your boss or professor and you want to be polite – just say {Здравствуйте}. You can use this word in everyday life greeting your friends, but it’s kind of strange. Why? Well, why use such polite language with someone that’s a close friend? So... read on!

### 4. Hello

- Здравствуй
- Zdrastvooy



You can cut down the word and say just {Здравствуй} [Zdrastvooy]. Now it's ok to use with people that you know well, but with friends it's still better to say {Privet}.

#### 5. Good morning in Russian

- Доброе утро
- Dobroye ootro



Common greeting and a must-know phrase for all learners. You can say this phrase to everybody (doesn't matter you meet the boss or your close friend) in the morning. Just make sure you say it before 11:59AM!

Now, there are some more variations of Good Morning in Russian.



## 6. Good morning

- Утро доброе
- Ootro dobroye



Yes, the word order was switched and the meaning is 100% the same. Russian's a fairly flexible language in that sense.

## 7. Good morning

- С добрым утром
- S dobrim ootrom



“S” means “with.” So, this literally means “with good morning” but you know, you shouldn’t translate languages literally. Very common morning greeting as well.

Next!

### 8. Good afternoon in Russian

- Добрый день
- Dobriy den



Alright, it’s 12PM. What do you say? This phrase of course! This is also frequently used form of greeting in Russia. You can say it to everybody and everywhere. No special rules of formalities. It’s is also used in formal occasions – on TV, radio, business-meetings and so on. And... there are some variations!

### 9. Good Afternoon

- день добрый
- den dobriy

Yep, just switched the word order!



**10. Good day/Good afternoon**

- хорошего дня
- horoshevo dnya



**11. Good evening**

- Добрый вечер
- Dobriy vecher





Okay, it's 6PM. This is the greeting to use for the evening (until night). It's a bit formal which young people (and friends) don't use much. But, if you turn on the TV (news or some sport events), you'll hear it.

#### 12. Good evening

- вечер добрый
- vecher dobriy



And again! Word re-order! Here you can also replace words and say {vecher dobriy}. Try to say the {ve} very softly like you are saying {vie}.

#### 13. Good night



- Доброй ночи
- Dobroy nochi



You can use it only at night or in early morning. Remember, that this is a GREETING for the night. If you want to use {Good night} saying to somebody who is going to sleep – you're using the wrong phrase! Instead of that, you have to say {Спокойной ночи} – [Spokoynoy nochi]. You can't re-order words in both these phrases.

#### 14. Hello (the military way)

- Здравия желаю
- Zdraviya zhelayu



This is a greeting used in the military. If translated, it means “Good health” or “I wish you good health.” Elderly people say it sometimes. And it’s not a problem if you use it too, even if you are not a soldier. It sounds nice and polite.

### 15. Hello (on the phone)

- Алло
- Allo

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Hello (used on the phone)

АЛЛО  
Allo

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This is how you say hello in Russian... on the phone only. That’s it. Be careful – if you say it to somebody in real life, it means [wake up], or [can you hear me?]. This can be rude or somewhat scolding if they’re not paying attention.

**Now, let’s move onto the slang.**

### 16. Hello (slang)

- Здарова
- Zdarova

This is the most popular slang way of greeting – young people use it all the time (especially boys/men). If you see your close friend – you can say [Zdarova] – it’s modern and fun. When you say [Zdarova], the {o} is stressed.

## Learn Russian Phrases

Hello (Russian slang)

Здарова  
Zdarova

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And onto some borrowed words from English!

### 17. Hello (borrowed from English)

- Хеллоу
- Hellou

## Learn Russian Phrases

Hello (borrowed)

Хеллоу  
Hellou

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### 18. Hi (borrowed from English)

- Хай
- Hai



## Learn Russian Phrases

Hi (borrowed)

Хай  
Hai

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### 19. Hey (borrowed from English)

- Хей
- Hey

## Learn Russian Phrases

Hey (borrowed)

Хей  
Hey

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### 20. Salute (borrowed from English)

- Салют
- Salyoot



All Russians know these words but don't really use them. So, if you say [Hi] in Russia it's ok – you will not shock nobody. Who uses them? Typically Russian Youtube-vloggers and people with English speaking friends.

## 19 Awesome Ways To Say: How Are You in Russian

### 1. How are you in Russian

- Как дела?
- Kak dela?

This is the #1, most popular way to ask How are you in Russian. **If you need to remember anything from this lesson, it's this.** Now, it's not formal. You shouldn't say Как дела to your boss, but if you see a friend – use it. When you pronounce Kak dela try to make {e} very soft. In Russian, the {e} is a soft vowel and sounds more like {ie}.



The next phrase you'll learn is a variation of this.

## 2. How are you? (gentle)

- Как делишки?
- Kak delishki?

Young people, especially girls, like to adjust the phrase Как дела by saying Как делишки – Kak d'elishki. Why? it sounds sweeter, gentler and more endearing.





### 3. How are you doing? (formal)

- Как Вы поживаете?
- Kak Vi pozhivayete?

This is a formal, official way of asking people “How are you doing.” If it’s a conversation between two presidents, or you meet your boss or professor and you want to be polite – use it.



You CAN use this in everyday life with your friends, but it’s strange. Why? It’s too polite, to the extent of ... why are you being “formal” with a close friend? Odd choice of words, bro. So, use #5.

### 4. How are you doing? (casual)

So, it’s better to change {Вы} to {ты} and ask:

- Как ты поживаешь?
- Kak ti pozhivayesh?

Now, it’s ok to use with people that you know well. But, we can go even shorter with this phrase.

## Learn Russian Phrases

How are you doing? (casual)

Как ты поживаешь?  
Kak ti pozhivayesh?

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### 5. How are you? (super casual)

- Как ты?
- Kak ti?

Literally, this means “How you?” This might be the shortest way to say How are you in Russian!

## Learn Russian Phrases

How are you? (super casual)

Как ты?  
Kak ti?

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### 6. How are things?

- Как Ваши дела?
- Kak Vashi dela?

“Как Ваши дела” is a way to ask “How are things?” As you can tell, дела means things. But, we can also translate it like “How is your business?” Use it on anybody; a boss or your close friend. It’s not that formal like the phrase, “Как Вы поживаете”, but it’s still polite.



## 7. How are things? (casual)

If you see a friend, say Kak Tvoi dela, because “Vashi” is too formal.

- Как Твои дела
- Kak Tvoi dela



# Learn Russian Phrases

How are things? (casual)

Как Твои дела  
Kak Tvoi dela

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## 8. How are you doing?/How is your mood?

- Как настроение?
- Kak nastroyenie?

Another common way to ask How are you in Russian. We can translate this phrase to “How is your mood” because “настроение” means “mood.” You can say it to everyone and everywhere. This phrase is also used in formal occasions – on TV, radio, speeches.

# Learn Russian Phrases

How are you doing?/How is your mood?

Как настроение?  
Kak nastroyenie?

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You can also say {как твое настроение} or {как Ваше настроение}. Make sure you roll the {r} if you want to say it properly.

## 9. What's new?

- Что нового?
- Chto novogo?

Ask this if you haven't seen some person for a bit of time. This phrase is formal so young people (friends) don't use it much. But, on TV (news or sport events) it's popular.



## 10. How's it going?

- Вы как?
- Vi kak?

Very short and easy to remember. You can use it with your friends. Use it when talking to one person or a group of people.



### 11. How's your life going?

- Как живется?
- Kak zhivetsa?

Just like the English version, this has the same meaning and usage. Elderly typically say it a lot but it's not a problem if you use it also. It sounds nice and polite.



### 12. How's life?

- Как жизнь?
- Kak zhizn?

Just like “Как живется?” but this phrase is more common. It’s not a formal so if you meet your really close friend – use it... even if you see this person every day!



Alright, the next set of phrases are slang.

### 13. What's up? (slang)

- Как сам?
- Kak sam?



# Learn Russian Phrases

What's up? (slang)

Как сам?  
Kak sam?

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## 14. Howdy (slang)

- ты как?
- Ti kak?

# Learn Russian Phrases

Howdy (slang)

ТЫ КАК?  
Ti kak?

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## 15. You alright? (slang)

- че там?
- Cho tam?



#### 16. Alright mate? (slang)

- как там?
- Kak tam?



All of the above are slang ways of asking How are you in Russian. Young people, especially boys and men, use these. If you see a close friend – you can say some of them. They're modern and fun, and as bonus for you, you sound more native.

The next few phrases come from the English language and English slang.

**17. How are you?** (taken from English)

- Хай а ю?
- How a yu?

**Learn Russian Phrases**

**How are you? (taken from English)**

Хай а ю?  
How a yu?

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**18. What's up?** (taken from English)

- вотсап?
- votsap?

**Learn Russian Phrases**

**What's up? (taken from English)**

вотсап?  
votsap?

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## 19. Wharrup? (taken from English)

- vorap?
- vorap?

Everyone around the world is familiar with these phrases. Russians too. Now, honestly, Russians don't use these much in everyday life. But, Youtube-vloggers and Russians that talk with English speakers like them.



And that's it.

## 14 Unique Ways to say Bye in Russian

### 1. Bye in Russian

- Пока
- Pronunciation: Poka



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**Learn Russian Phrases**

Bye

Пока

Pronunciation: Poka

This is probably the easiest and the most popular word in Russian to say bye to someone. Remember, this is not formal – you should not say [Poka] to your boss, but if you can use it with friends.

## 2. Goodbye (formal)

- До свидания
- Do svidanya

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Goodbye (formal)

До свидания

Do svidanya

This is official way to say Goodbye in Russia. If you meet your boss or professor and you want to be polite ending the conversation – use it. You can use this word in everyday life also with your friends, but it's better just to say {Poka}.

### 3. See you later

- До встречи
- Do vstrechi



You can say this phrase to anybody (no rules or formalities) – it's polite and good. Make sure you roll the {r} really hard if you want to say it properly.

Here's one more way to say "see you."

### 4. See you

- Увидимся
- Oovidimsya

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See you

УВИДИМСЯ  
Oovidimsya

This is also frequently commonly-used phrase for saying “See you later” in Russia. However, it’s not as formal as the phrase before – “До встречи” – which you can use with bosses and people of higher status.

## 5. Farewell

- Прощайте
- Proshayte

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Farewell

Прощайте  
Proshayte

This phrase sounds formal, right? It's also fairly emotional and final. Something two lovers in a movie would say before separating. In daily conversations, Russians don't really use "Прощайте" very often.

## 6. Good night

- Спокойной ночи
- Spokoynoy nochì



You can use this when someone's going to sleep (*or in movies, when someone kills or knocks out another person*).

Remember, you are NOT greeting people at night with this phrase. If you want to use {Good night} as a greeting, you have to say [Dobroy nochì]. Don't confuse these phrases.

## 7. Good luck

- Счастливо
- Shastlivo



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Good luck

Счастье  
Shastlivo

This expression actually means “Good luck”, because the original word is “Счастье”, what means “Luck”. Old people say it all the time. It’s not a problem if you use it though, it sounds good and polite.

## 8. Have a good trip

- Счастливого пути
- Shastlivovo puti

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Have a good trip

Счастливого пути  
Shastlivovo puti

You can use this when someone is going to a trip. It’s just like “Have a good/nice trip” in English.

## 9. Bye (phone and mail)

- Всего доброго
- Vsevo dobrovo



Literally it means “everything good.” As if you’re wishing them all the best.

This is the best way for ending phone or text conversations. It’s formal, cultural and polite. If you say it to somebody in everyday life, that’s also okay. It also means [Good luck] or [God bless].

## 10. Bye (slang)

- Давай
- Davay

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Bye (slang)

Давай  
Davay

Want to learn slang? This is how you'd say bye in Russian – in slang. Young people use it all the time (especially boys/men). [Davay] really means “Come on”, but young people use it as a parting greeting.

**Now, the next set of words are taken from other languages.**

### **11. Bye (borrowed from Spanish)**

- Адиос
- Adios

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Bye (borrowed from Spanish)

Адиос  
Adios

**12. Bye (borrowed from English)**

- бай
- Bye

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Bye (borrowed from English)

бай  
Bye

**13. Bye (borrowed from French)**

- аревуар
- Au revoir



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Bye (borrowed from French)

аревуар  
Au revoir

**14. Bye (borrowed from German)**

- ауфидерзеен
- Auf Wiedersehen

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Bye (borrowed from German)

ауфидерзеен  
Auf Wiedersehen

These words are well-known ways to say bye. Russians know them. However they don't use them much in everyday life... for obvious reasons. But don't worry, if you say these in Russia, it will be okay – you will not shock nobody.