



# RUSSIAN TABLE

Russian Coordinating Conjunctions: Master Sheet



The most important or common Russian conjunctions are highlighted in blue.

## Additive / copulative conjunctions – For making lists

Conjunction	Translation	Example	Comments	Punctuation
<b>и</b> (i)	and	Он любит шоколад <b>и</b> мороженое. on LYUbit shakaLAT i maROzhinaye. He likes chocolate <b>and</b> ice cream.	The <b>most widely-used</b> conjunction in Russian. It can connect words, phrases, and clauses. Similarly to English, if there are three or more elements listed, <b>и</b> is normally only used before the last one.	Comma must be used before <b>и</b> if it connects clauses in a sentence.
<b>и... и ...</b> (i i)	... and ... and ...	Он любит и шоколад, <b>и</b> мороженое, <b>и</b> печенье. on LYUbit i shakaLAT i maROzhinaye i piCHENye. He likes <b>both</b> chocolate, <b>and</b> ice cream, <b>and</b> cookies.	Iterative conjunction, used in positive sentences. It can connect words, phrases, and clauses.	Comma must be used before second and the following <b>и</b> , unless it is a set phrase.
<b>как... так и</b> (kak tak i)	both ... and ...	Он любит как шоколад, так и мороженое. on LYUbit kak shakaLAT tak i maROzhinaye. He likes both chocolate and ice cream.	Correlative conjunction. It can connect words and phrases, but not clauses or sentences. Tends to be used in more formal situations.	Comma must be used before <b>так и</b> .



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## Additive / copulative conjunctions – For making lists

Conjunction	Translation	Example	Comments	Punctuation
<b>ни... ни...</b> (ni ni)	not ... and not ...	Он не любит <b>ни</b> шоколад, <b>ни</b> мороженое, <b>ни</b> печенье. on nye LYUbit ni shakaLAT ni maROzhinaye ni piCHENye. He doesn't like chocolate, <b>nor</b> ice cream, <b>nor</b> cookies.	Iterative conjunction, used in negative sentences. It can connect words, phrases, and clauses.	Comma must be used before second and the following <b>ни</b> , unless it is a set phrase.
<b>да</b> (da)	and	Он любит только шоколад <b>да</b> мороженое. on LYUbit TOLka shakaLAT da maROzhinaye. He likes only chocolate <b>and</b> ice cream.	Colloquial. Can be found in numerous idioms and set phrases. It can connect words, phrases, and clauses.  *can show contrast too	Comma must be used before <b>да</b> if it connects clauses in a sentence.



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## Adversative conjunctions – For showing contrast

Conjunction	Translation	Example	Comments
<b>но</b> (no)	but	Эта машина хорошая, <b>но</b> дорогая. Eta maSHYna khaROshaya no daraGaya. This car is good <b>but</b> expensive.	Can connect words, phrases, and clauses. Introduces a contrasting <b>characteristic</b> of the same object.
<b>а</b> (a)	but / and	Эта машина хорошая, <b>а</b> та нет. Eta maSHYna khaROshaya a ta nyet. This car is good, <b>but</b> that one isn't.  Это моя машина, <b>а</b> это мой дом. Eta maYA maSHYna a Eta moy dom. This is my car, <b>and</b> that's my house.	Can connect words, phrases, and clauses. Introduces either a completely opposite <b>idea</b> (This is not A, but B. / This is A, but this is not.), or a different idea (This is A, and this is B.)
<b>однако</b> (adNAka)	but / however	Эта машина хорошая, <b>однако</b> я не могу её себе позволить. Eta maSHYna khaROshaya adNAka ya ni maGOO yIYO sibYE pazVOLit. This car is good <b>but</b> I cannot afford it.	Links mostly clauses and sentences. More formal than <b>но</b> .
<b>зато</b> (zaTO)	but at least / on the plus side	Эта машина старая, <b>зато</b> дешёвая. Eta maSHYna STARaya zaTO diSHOvaya. This car is old <b>but at least</b> cheap.	Can connect words, phrases, and clauses. Introduces the idea which compensates the previous one.



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## Adversative conjunctions – For showing contrast

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<b>же</b> (zhe)	but / however / and	Я люблю большие машины, мой друг <b>же</b> предпочитает компактные. ya lyubLYU balSHYye maSHYny moy droog zhe pritpachiTAyet kamPAKTnyie. I like big cars, <b>but</b> my friend prefers compact ones.	Can only join clauses. Introduces contrasting ideas. <b>Always positioned after the subject of the second (dependent) clause, NOT at the beginning!</b> <b>Comma</b> must be put at the beginning of the dependent clause, <b>NOT immediately before же</b> .
<b>только</b> (TOLka)	but	Эта машина хорошая, <b>только</b> дорогая. Eta maSHYna khaROshaya TOLka daraGAYa. This car is good <b>but</b> expensive.	Can connect words, phrases, and clauses. Colloquial synonym to <b>но</b> .
<b>да</b> (da)	but	Эта машина хорошая, <b>да</b> уж больно дорогая. Eta maSHYna khaROshaya da oosh BOLna daraGAYa. This car is good <b>but</b> very expensive.	Can connect words, phrases, and clauses. Colloquial synonym to <b>но</b> .  *can be used for making lists too



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## Alternative conjunctions – For listing options

Conjunction	Translation	Example	Comments	Punctuation
<b>или</b> (EELi)	or	Мы можем пойти в кино <b>или</b> в театр. my MOzhem payTEE f kiNO EELi f tyatr. We can go to the movies <b>or</b> to the theater.	The <b>most common</b> alternative conjunction, joins words, phrases, and clauses.	Comma must be used before <b>или</b> if it connects clauses in a sentence. If there are three or more choices, <b>или</b> is normally used between the last two. Sometimes, however, it can be used between every pair of options in the list, with a comma before each instance of <b>или</b> .
<b>либо</b> (LEEba)	or	Мы можем пойти в кино, в музей, <b>либо</b> в театр. my MOzhem payTEE f kiNO v mooZYEY LEEba f tyatr. We can go to the movies, to the park, <b>or</b> to the theater.	A more formal synonym to <b>или</b> . Usually joins words and parts of a sentence with identical function.	If there are three or more choices, <b>либо</b> is normally used between the last two. Sometimes, however, it can be used between every pair of options in the list, with a comma before each instance of <b>либо</b> .
<b>или ... или ... / либо ... либо ...</b> (EELi EELi / LEEba LEEba)	either ... or ...	Мы можем пойти <b>или</b> в кино, <b>или</b> в театр. my MOzhem payTEE EELi f kiNO EELi f tyatr. We can go <b>either</b> to the movies <b>or</b> to the theater.	<b>Correlative</b> conjunction. Used to provide options to choose from. <b>Либо ... либо ...</b> is used in more formal contexts.	Comma must be used before the second conjunction.



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## Alternative conjunctions – For listing options

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<b>TO ... TO ...</b> (to to)	Sometimes ... or some times ... / either ... or ... or ...	Мы в выходные ходим <b>то</b> в кино, <b>то</b> в театр, <b>то</b> в музей. my v vykhadNYie KHODim to f kiNO to f tyatr to v mooZYEY. On weekends we go <b>sometimes</b> to the movies, <b>or sometimes</b> to the theater, or <b>sometimes</b> to a museum.	<b>Iterative conjunction</b> , shows <b>alteration of events / actions</b> . Can connect words, phrases, and clauses.	Comma must be used before the second and all the following conjunctions.
<b>ТО ЛИ ... ТО ЛИ ... / НЕ ТО ... НЕ ТО ...</b> (to li to li / ni to ni to)	whether ... or ... / either ... or ...	Они ушли <b>то ли</b> в кино, <b>то ли</b> в театр, <b>то ли</b> в музей. aNEE ooshLEE to li f kiNO to li f tyatr to li v mooZYEY. They went <b>either</b> to the movies, <b>or</b> to the theater, <b>or</b> to a museum.	<b>Iterative conjunction</b> . Used when the speaker is not sure about something and makes guesses. Can connect words, phrases, and clauses. <b>He to</b> is slightly more colloquial than <b>то ли</b> .	Comma must be used before the second and all the following conjunctions.



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## Emphatic conjunctions – Emphasize the second part

Conjunction	Translation	Example	Comments	Punctuation
<b>НЕ СТОЛЬКО ...</b> <b>СКОЛЬКО ...</b> (ni SYOLka SKOLka)	not so much ... as ...	Она хотела <b>НЕ СТОЛЬКО</b> денег, <b>СКОЛЬКО</b> независимости. aNA khaTYEla ni STOLka DYEnik SKOLka nizaVEEsimasti. She wished <b>not so much</b> for money <b>as</b> for independence.	Correlative conjunction, joins part of a sentence with similar function.	Comma must be used before <b>СКОЛЬКО</b> .
<b>НЕ ТОЛЬКО ...</b> <b>НО И ...</b> (ni TOLka no i)	not only ... but also ...	Она хотела <b>НЕ ТОЛЬКО</b> денег, <b>НО И</b> независимости. aNA khaTYEla ni TOLka DYEnik no i nizaVEEsimasti. She wished <b>not only</b> for money <b>but also</b> for independence.	Correlative conjunction, joins part of a sentence with similar function.	Comma must be used before <b>НО И</b> .



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## Clarificatory conjunctions – Clarify the first part

Conjunction	Translation	Example	Comments
<b>то есть</b> (TO yest)	that is / namely / which means	Школьники, <b>то есть</b> дети от 7 до 18 лет, проходят регулярные медицинские осмотры. SHKOLniki to yest DYEtI at siMEE da vasimNAtsati lyet praKHODyat rigoolYARnyie midITSYNskiye asMOTry. School students, <b>that is</b> children between 7 and 18 y.o., have regular medical examinations.	Used to provide an example or a more detailed description of words, phrases, and clauses.
<b>а именно</b> (a EEmina)	namely / more specifically	В некоторых европейских странах, <b>а именно</b> в Германии, Чехии, Польше, Финляндии и других, обучение в университете бесплатно. v NYEkatorykh yivraPYEYskikh STRAnakh a EEmina v girMANii CHEkhii POLshe finLYANDii i drooGEEKH abooCHEniye v oonivyersiTYEtye bisPLATna. In some European countries, <b>namely</b> in Germany, Czechia, Poland, Finland, and others, university education is free.	Used to provide an example or a more detailed description of words, phrases, and clauses.



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### Adjective conjunctions – Give extra or secondary information

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<b>также / тоже</b> (TAKzhe / TOzhe)	too / also / as well	Брат начал играть в футбол, я <b>тоже</b> решил начать заниматься спортом. brat NACHal iGRAT f footBOL ya TOzhe riSHYL naCHAT zaniMATsa SPORtam. My brother started to play football, so I decided to start playing sports <b>too</b> .	Used to join causes. <b>Также</b> is slightly more formal than <b>тоже</b> .	Comma must be used at the beginning of a clause with <b>тоже / также</b> .
<b>а также</b> (a TAKzhe)	and ... too / and also / as well as	Брат начал играть в футбол, <b>а также</b> в волейбол и баскетбол. brat NACHal iGRAT f footBOL a TAKzhe v valiBOL i baskyedBOL. My brother started to play football, <b>as well as</b> volleyball and basketball.	Used to join words and phrases in a sentence.	Comma must be used before <b>а также</b> .
<b>причём / притом</b> (priCHOM / priTOM)	and / notably / what's interesting / moreover	Брат начал играть в футбол, <b>причём</b> профессионально. brat NACHal iGRAT f footBOL priCHOM prafisiaNALna. My brother started to play football, <b>and what's interesting</b> , (he does that) professionally.	Used to connect words, phrases, and clauses. <b>Притом</b> is slightly more formal than <b>причём</b> .	Comma must be used before <b>причём / притом</b> .
<b>да и</b> (da i)	and ... too/either	Брат профессионально играет в футбол, <b>да и</b> я неплохо. brat prafisiaNALna iGRAnye f footBOL da i ya niPLOkha. My brother plays football professionally, <b>and</b> I am not too bad at it <b>either</b> .	Colloquial. Connects parts of sentence with similar function, and clauses.	Comma must be used before <b>да и</b> .

