

**COMPLETE
ROUMANIAN-ENGLISH
DICTIONARY**

**DICTIONAR
COMPLET
ROMÂN-ENGLEZ**

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THE ROUMANIAN LANGUAGE AND ITS ORTHOGRAPHY.

Roumanian is spoken in Greater Roumania, comprising the Old Kingdom and the regained territories of Transylvania, Bukovina and Bessarabia and some communities of the Pindus in Macedonia. It is one of the group of languages remaining as relics of the great Roman empire. It is, in the main, derived from Latin, and this, the principal constituent of the vocabulary, has been strengthened in the literary language by borrowings from French. Beside the Latin element there are many Slavonic roots, a number of Albanian (the ultimate source of which is doubtful) and many words borrowed from Turkish, Modern Greek and Hungarian.

The first task that confronted the Roumanian Academy at its foundation in 1866, was to establish the orthography of the Roumanian language. This gave rise in its first three years of activity (1867-1869) to long heated discussions, which did not cease with the completion of the orthographical system in September, 1869.

When Laurian and Maxim, two determined Latinists, became leaders of the young institution, the Roumanian orthography and also the language were more and more latinized. The literary world, writers and the public did not follow this direction.

The Roumanian Academy, reconstituted and promoted to the rank of a national institution through a law of 1879, resuming its debates upon orthography, abandoned the excessively latinized spellings in 1881 and established

a newer form, of much easier nature. Instead of the Latin, a restricted Roumanian orthography was adopted.

In 1895 this orthography underwent a few more changes, but the principal remained the same.

The majority of the public, and writers and teachers, however, were not pleased with this system, and demanded a simpler and easier orthography based on phonetic principals. Following this, the Roumanian Academy in 1904 abandoned the etymological system and adopted the phonetic.

THE ALPHABET AND PRONUNCIATION.

Written Roumanian embraces 27 letters. Eight are vowels:

a, e, i, o, u, ă, â, î.

Y, a, ö, oe, ü are used only in proper, foreign or sometimes in Roumanian names: A de Vigny, Stanley, Lahovary, Schäfer, Römerbad, Bjoernson, Würzburg.

Nineteen are consonants: b, c, d, f, g, h, j, l, m, n, p, r, s, ș, t, ț, v, x, z.

K, qu, ph, th, tz, w, are used only in foreign proper names, a few Roumanian, and some neologisms: Kant, Kogălniceanu, Kretzulescu; Aquitania, Quintilian, Phillipsburg, Philippide, Thiers, Metz, Wagner, White; kalium, kediv, kilogram, kilometru, kilowat (with their conventional abbreviations: kg., km., kw.).

As a general rule each letter represents one sound only and each sound is always expressed by its same respective letter, but in practice there are a few exceptions:

- a) â and î have the same sound,
- b) c and g have two different sounds each,
- c) x represents a combination of two sounds.

Where final î, ù, and â are stressed, they are accented with the grave accent (`) as in *vorbi*, (to talk), *vazù*, (to see), and *lucrâ* (to work). î and ù appear in verbs only. â appears in verbs and occasionally in nouns, as in *macarâ* (pulley), *zâpis* (contract).

APPROXIMATE PRONUNCIATION.

a like a in father.	i like i in machine;
ă like a in dental.	but
â like u in cur.	i before a, e, o, u, like y in
b like b in bell.	yet.
c is hard as in English;	î like u in cur.
but	j like s in measure.
c before h like k in king.	l like l in lemon.
c before i and e like ch in	m like m in member.
church.	n like n in natural.
d like d in Delaware.	o like o in go.
e like e in men.	p like p in pantry.
f like f in federal.	r like r in remedy.
g before i and e like g in	s like s in sex.
gem.	ș like sh in shelf.
g before h like g in guilty.	t like t in Teddy.
g before other letters like g	ț like ts in hats.
in going.	u like oo in moon.
h is aspirated like h in	v like v in value.
home.	x like cs in relics.
	z like z in maze.

THE GENDER OF NOUNS.

There are three genders in the Roumanian language, viz., the masculine, the feminine, and the neuter (masculine in the singular and feminine in the plural, in Roumanian called *ambigen* meaning "double gender").

Masculine are the names, ending in consonant or -u, of individuals of the male sex, of peoples, mountains, the months, the winds, trees, and the letters of the alphabet.

Feminine are nouns ending in -a, -ea, -ă, and -i, with the exception of the following which are masculine: *popă* (priest), *tată* (father), *vodă* (prince), *aga* (commander), *vlădică* (bishop), *papă* (pope).

Nouns ending in a consonant or -u, which indicate an inanimate object, are neuter.

Nouns ending in -e may be either masculine, feminine, or neuter. The dictionary must be consulted to ascertain their gender.

PLURAL OF NOUNS.

The plural of Roumanian nouns depends on the gender and the declension.

There are three declension in the language. Masculine and feminine nouns ending in *-ă, -â, -eă, -lă* belong to the first declension; masculine and neuter nouns with the termination *-u* are of the second declension; and nouns ending in *-e* belong to the third declension.

The terminations in the plural are as follows:

-i for all masculine and some feminine nouns:

domn (gentleman, sir) — *domni* (gentlemen, sirs)
nucă (nut) — *nuci* (nuts);

-e for a large number of feminine nouns and some neuter nouns:

casă (house) — *case* (houses)
deget (finger) — *degete* (fingers);

-le for feminine nouns with the accented endings *-ă, -eă, -lă*:

basmă (kerchief) — *basmale* (kerchiefs)
stea (star) — *stele* (stars)
nuiă (rod) — *nuiele* (rods);

-uri for many neuter nouns and some feminine:

foc (fire) — *focuri* (fires)
iarbă (grass, herb) — *ierburi* (grass, herbs).

The formation of the Roumanian plural, beside the above changes in endings, involves also the modification of the root itself, according to the following rules:

(a) Nouns ending in the singular in *-da, -ta, -te* change the *d* into *z* and the *t* into *ț*, before the plural ending *-i*. (This is true also of the dative and genitive singular).

rodă (prince) — *rozți* (princes)
tată (father) — *tați* (fathers)
frate (brother) — *frați* (brothers).

(b) Feminine nouns having an **a** in their roots before the ending **-ă** or **-e** in the singular, change the **a** into **ă** when the plural ending is **-i** or **-uri**:

rană (wound) — *răni* (wounds)
carte (book) — *cărți* (books)
marfă (merchandise) — *mărfuri* (merchandise).

The same change takes place in the genitive and dative cases before the endings **-i**, **-ilor**:

cărții (of the book)
rănilor (of the wounds).

(c) Many feminine nouns having an **a** before the ending **-ă** in the singular, change the **a** into **e**, when the plural ends in **-e**:

bandă (band) — *bende* (bands) (Also, *benzi*)
barză (stork) — *berze* (storks)
fată (girl) — *fete* (girls)
față (face) — *fețe* (faces)
masă (table) — *mese* (tables)
nevestă (wife) — *neveste* (wives)
pană (feather) — *pene* (feathers)
pară (pear) — *pere* (pears)
pată (stain) — *pete* (stains)
vară (cousin) — *vere* (cousins)
varză (cabbage) — *verze* (cabbages)
vatră (hearth) — *retre* (hearths).

Some feminine nouns ending in **-ă** have an **-i** in the plural:

doradă (proof) — *dorezi* (proofs)
grămadă (heap) — *grămezi* (heaps)
obadă (felly) — *obezi* (fellies)
pomadă (pomade) — *pomezî* (pomades)
covată (trough) — *coreți* (troughs)
vară (summer) — *veri* (summers)
vargă (rod) — *vergi* (rods).

(d) Nouns having an **ă** in their roots change it into **e**, when the plural (like the dative and the genitive singular) ends in either **-e** or **-i**:

cumpănă (balance) — *cumpene* (balances)

păr (hair) — *peri* (hairs)

măr (apple) — *mere* (apples)

făt (youth, lad) — *feți* (youths, lads)

(e) Nouns whose roots contain **ea** or **ia** preceding the termination of the singular, change that diphthong into **e**, when the plural (like the genitive and the dative singular) has the ending **-i** or **-e**:

treabă (affair, job) — *trebi, treburi* (affairs, jobs)

cetățean (citizen) — *cetățeni* (citizens)

geantă (satchel) — *gente* (satchels)

geană (eye-lash) — *gene* (eye-lashes)

iarbă (herb, grass) — *ierburi* (herbs, grass).

(f) Nouns whose root contains **oa** before the ending **-ă** in the singular, change that diphthong into **o**, when the plural (like the genitive and the dative singular) ends in **-i**:

poartă (gate) — *porți* (gates)

groapă (pit) — *gropi* (pits)

moară (mill) — *mori* (mills)

roată (wheel) — *roți* (wheels) (Also, *roate*)

școală (school) — *școli* (schools) (Also, *scoale*).

(g) Nouns with an **â** (= **î**) followed by **n**, change the **â** into **i**, when the plural (as well as the genitive and the dative singular) takes the ending **-e** or **-i**:

vână (vein) — *vine* (veins)

tânăr (youth) — *tineri* (youths)

sfânt (saint) — *sfinți* (saints).

But

Român (Roumanian) becomes *Români* (Roumanians)

Româneă (Roumanian woman) becomes *Române*
(Roumanian women)

pânză (linen, canvas) becomes *pânze* (cloths, linen).

(h) Most masculine nouns ending in **-l**, drop the **l** before taking the plural ending **-i**:

cal (horse) — *cai* (horses)

copil (child) — *copii* (children)

cățel (puppy) — *căței* (puppies).

(i) Nouns ending in **-z** in the singular, change the **z** to **j** before taking the termination **-i** in the plural:

viteaz (brave) — *viteji* (braves)

Francez (Frenchman) — *Franceji* (Frenchmen).

(j) Nouns ending in **-s** in the singular, change the **s** into **ș** before the ending **-i** of the plural:

urs (bear) — *urși* (bears)

râs (lynx) — *râși* (lynxes)

(k) Nouns ending in **-d** in the singular, change the **d** into **z** before taking the ending **-i** of the plural:

ieđ (kid) — *iezi* (kids)

lud (mulberry-tree) — *duzi* (mulberry-trees).

The following rules for the formation of the plural refer to the gender of nouns:

Masculine nouns ending in **-ă** (I declension) form the plural by changing the **-ă** into **-i**:

popă (priest) — *popi* (priests)

tată (father) — *tați* (fathers)

rodă (prince) — *rozi* (princes).

Nouns of the masculine gender ending in sounded **-u** (II declension) form the plural by changing the **-u** into **-i**:

socru (father-in-law) — *socri* (fathers-in-law)

cumătru (god-father) — *cumetri* (god-fathers)

jugastru (maple) — *jugastri* (maples)

Masculine nouns ending in *-lu* (II declension) have the plural in *-li*:

pui(u) (chicken pullet) — *pui* (chickens pullets)
tei(u) (linden) — *tei* (lindens)
ardei(u) (pepper) — *ardei* (peppers).

Masculine nouns ending in *-e* (II declension) form the plural by changing the *-e* into *-li*:

frate (brother) — *frați* (brothers)
părete (wall) — *păreți* (walls)
iepure (hare) — *iepurii* (hares)

Masculine nouns ending in a consonant (II declension) form the plural by the addition of *-li*.

cumnat (brother-in-law) — *cumnați* (brothers-in-law)
nepot (nephew) — *nepoți* (nephews)
general (general) — *generali* (generals)
păun (peacock) — *păuni* (peacocks).

The plural of *om* (man) is, however, *oameni*.

Feminine nouns ending in *-ă* form the plural by changing the *-ă* into either *-e* or *-li*, but there are no precise rules as to which of the latter endings may be applied in any particular case:

casă (house) — *case* (houses)
vacă (cow) — *vacii* (cows).

The following nouns form the plural by changing the ending *-ă* into *-uri*:

alamă (brass) — *alămuri* (brass instruments, utensils, etc.)
aramă (copper) — *arămuri* (copper instruments, utensils, etc.)
făină (flour) — *făinuri* (flours)
iarbă (herb, grass) — *ierburi* (herbs, grasses)

leafă (salary) — *lefuri* (salaries) (Also, *left*)
lână (wool) — *lânuri* (wools)
marfă (merchandise) — *mărfuri* (merchandise)
mătasă (silk) — *mătăsurî* (silks)
verdeafă (verdure, legume) — *verdețuri* (legumes).

The following nouns form the plural irregularly:

zi (day) — *zile* (days)
noră (daughter-in-law) — *nurori* (daughters-in-law)
soră (sister) — *surori* (sisters).

Neuter nouns ending in *-u* or in a consonant form the plural by changing the *-u* into *-e* or *-uri*:

căpăstru (halter) — *căpestre* (halters)
lucru (work, thing) — *lucruri* (things)
fruct (fruit) — *fructe* (fruits)
corp (body) — *corpuri* (bodies).

Neuter nouns ending in *-iu* form the plural by changing the singular ending into *-ii*:

studiu (study) — *studii* (studies)
consiliu (council) — *consilii* (councils).

The following four neuter nouns, the only four ending in *-e*, are invariable in the plural:

nume (name, names)
codice (code, codes)
indice (index; indexes, indices)
apendice (appendix, appendices).

The following neuter nouns have an irregular plural:

cap (head) — *capete* (heads)
ou (egg) — *ouă* (eggs)
rău (evil) — *rele* (evils, evil doings).

The following nouns have two plurals:

<i>argint</i> (silver)	* <i>arginți, arginturi</i>
<i>astru</i> (star)	<i>aștri, astre</i>
<i>bob</i>	* <i>bobi, boabe</i>

cap (chief, head)
clopoșel (small bell)
colț (corner)
câmp (field)
drob (chunk of salt)
floc (animals' hair)
genunchiu (knee)
muc (candle-wick)
ochiu (eye)
popușoi (maize)
uluc (fence)
veac (age, century)
iarbă (grass)
treabă (affair)
vreme (time)
ceartă (quarrel)
gâlceavă (quarrel)

* *capî, capete*
 * *clopoșei, clopoșele*
 * *colți, colțuri*
câmpi, câmpuri
drobi, droburi
 * *floî, floace*
genunchi, genunchi
 * *muci, mucuri*
 * *ochi, ochiuri*
 * *popușoi, popușoie*
uluci, uluce
 * *veci, vecuri*
ierbi, ierburi
trebi, treburi
vremi, vremuri
certe, certuri
gâlceri, gâlceruri, etc.

The plurals preceded by an asterisk differ in meaning from one another. For these the dictionary must be consulted.

DECLENSION OF NOUNS

In Roumanian nouns are declined with or without the definite article. There are three declensions: The first declension includes nouns feminine and masculine ending in *-ă, -â, -eă*; the second declension includes masculine and neuter nouns ending in *-u* or some consonant; and the third includes nouns of all three genders with the termination *-e*.

First Declension.

(With the indefinite article).

A

N. & A.	<i>o mamă</i>	a mother
G.	<i>a unei mame</i>	a mother's
D.	<i>unei mame</i>	to a mother
V.	<i>o mamă!</i>	O, mother!

N. & A.	<i>unele mame</i>	some mothers
G.	<i>a unor mame</i>	some mothers'
D.	<i>unor mame</i>	to some mothers
V.	<i>mame!</i>	O, mothers!

B

N. & A.	<i>un tată</i>	a father
G.	<i>a unui tată</i>	a father's
D.	<i>unui tată</i>	to a father
V.	<i>o tată!</i>	O, father!

N. & A.	<i>unii tați</i>	some fathers
G.	<i>a unor tați</i>	some fathers'
D.	<i>unor tați</i>	to some fathers
V.	<i>tați!</i>	O, fathers!

C

N. & A.	<i>o basmă</i>	a kerchief
G.	<i>a unei basmale</i>	of a kerchief
D.	<i>unei basmale</i>	to a kerchief
N. & A.	<i>unele basmale</i>	some kerchiefs
G.	<i>a unor basmale</i>	of some kerchiefs
D.	<i>unor basmale</i>	to some kerchiefs

D

N. & A.	<i>o stea</i>	a star
G.	<i>a unei stele</i>	of a star
D.	<i>unei stele</i>	to a star
V.	<i>o stea!</i>	O, star!
N. & A.	<i>unele stele</i>	some stars
G.	<i>a unor stele</i>	of some stars
D.	<i>unor stele</i>	to some stars
V.	<i>stele!</i>	O stars!

Second Declension.

(With the indefinite article).

A

N. & A.	<i>un socru</i>	a father-in-law
G.	<i>a unui socru</i>	a father-in-law's
D.	<i>unui socru</i>	to a father-in-law
V.	<i>o socru!</i>	O, father-in-law!
N. & A.	<i>unii socri</i>	some fathers-in-law
G.	<i>a unor socri</i>	of some fathers-in-law
D.	<i>unor socri</i>	to some fathers-in-law
V.	<i>socri!</i>	O, fathers-in-law!

B

N. & A.	<i>un pui(u)</i>	a young (of an animal)
G.	<i>unui pui(u)</i>	a young's
D.	<i>a unui pui(u)</i>	to a young
V.	<i>pui(u)!</i>	O, young!
N. & A.	<i>unii pui</i>	some young ones
G.	<i>a unor pui</i>	some young ones'
D.	<i>unor pui</i>	to some young ones
V.	<i>pui!</i>	O, young ones!

C

N. & A.	<i>un băiat</i>	a boy
G.	<i>a unui băiat</i>	a boy's
D.	<i>unui băiat</i>	to a boy
V.	<i>băiete!</i>	boy!
N. & A.	<i>unii băieți</i>	some boys
G.	<i>a unor băieți</i>	some boys'
D.	<i>unor băieți</i>	to some boys
V.	<i>băieți!</i>	boys!

D

N. & A.	<i>un cântec</i>	a song
G.	<i>a unui cântec</i>	of a song
D.	<i>unui cântece</i>	to a song
V.	<i>o cântec!</i>	O, song!
N. & A.	<i>uncle cântece</i>	some songs
G.	<i>a unor cântece</i>	of some songs
D.	<i>unor cântece</i>	to some songs
V.	<i>cântece!</i>	O, songs!

E

N. & A.	<i>un foc</i>	a fire
G.	<i>a unui foc</i>	of a fire
D.	<i>unui foc</i>	to a fire
V.	<i>foc!</i>	fire!
N. & A.	<i>unele focuri</i>	some fires
G.	<i>a unor focuri</i>	of some fires
D.	<i>unor focuri</i>	to some fires
V.	<i>focuri!</i>	fires!

Third Declension.

(With the indefinite article).

A

N. & A.	<i>un frate</i>	a brother
G.	<i>a unui frate</i>	a brother's
D.	<i>unui frate</i>	to a brother
V.	<i>frate!</i>	brother!
N. & A.	<i>unii frați</i>	some brothers
G.	<i>a unor frați</i>	some brothers'
D.	<i>unor frați</i>	to some brothers
V.	<i>frați!</i>	brothers!

B

N. & A.	<i>o lege</i>	a law
G.	<i>a unei legi</i>	of a law
D.	<i>unei legi</i>	to a law
V.	<i>lege!</i>	O, law!
N. & A.	<i>unele legi</i>	some laws
G.	<i>a unor legi</i>	of some laws
D.	<i>unor legi</i>	to some laws
V.	<i>legi!</i>	O, laws!

C

N. & A.	<i>un nume</i>	a name
G.	<i>a unui nume</i>	of a name
D.	<i>unui nume</i>	to a name
V.	<i>nume!</i>	O, name!
N. & A.	<i>unele nume</i>	some names
G.	<i>a unelor nume</i>	of some names
D.	<i>unelor nume</i>	to some names
V.	<i>nume!</i>	O, names!

First Declension.
(With the definite article).

A

N. & A.	<i>mama</i>	the mother
G.	<i>a mamei</i>	the mother's
D.	<i>mamei</i>	to the mother
V.	<i>mama!</i>	mother!
N. & A.	<i>mamele</i>	the mothers
G.	<i>a mamelor</i>	the mothers'
D.	<i>mamelor</i>	to the mothers
V.	<i>mamelor!</i>	O, mothers!