

Russian Names (Underlined boldface letters are stressed syllables)
Dr. Bruce Holl - Trinity University

1. First Name - имя

Is chosen by the parents

2. Patronymic - отчество

Serves as a middle name

Means "son of" or "daughter of"

Is formed by adding -ович ovich (son of) or -овна ovna (daughter of) to father's name

Is sometimes spelled -евич evich or -евна evna

Is used, together with the first name, as a form of address

3. Surname – фамилия

Often ends in -ов -ov or in -ин -in

Has an -а on the end for females: -ова ova, -ина ina

Can have spelling variants: -ев(а) ev(a), -ын(а) -yn(a)

Can end like an adjective: -ый, -ий, -ой -y, -ii, -oy (the latter is always stressed)

Women's variant is usually -ая -aya

4. Diminutive - уменьшительное имя

Is an affectionate name

Usually has several different variants depending on degree of intimacy

5. Examples

Full name: Александр Сергеевич Пушкин Aleksandr Sergeevich Pushkin

Father's name: Сергей Sergei

Business associates call him: Александр Сергеевич Aleksandr Sergeevich

Friends call him: Саша Sasha

Grandma might call him: Сашенька Sashenka

Full Name: Александра Сергеевна Пушкина Aleksandra Sergeevna Pushkina

Father's name Сергей Sergei

Business associates call her: Александра Сергеевна Aleksandra Sergeevna

Friends call her: Саша Sasha

Grandma might call her: Сашенька Sashenka

Full Name: Антон Павлович Чехов Anton Pavlovich Chekhov

Father's name: Павл Павел Pavel

Business associates call him: Антон Павлович Anton Pavlovich

Friends call him: Антоша Antosha

Grandma might call him: Антошенька Antoshenka

Full Name: **Мария Тихоновна Грехова** Maria Tikhonovna Grekhova
Father's name: **Тихон** Tikhon
Business associates call her: **Мария Тихоновна** Maria Tikhonovna
Friends call her: **Маша** Masha
Grandma might call her: **Машенька** Mashenka

Full Name: **Лев Николаевич Толстой** Lev Nikolaevich Tolstoy
Father's name: **Николай** Nikolai
Business associates call him: **Лев Николаевич** Lev Nikolaevich
Friends call him: **Лёва** Lyova
Grandma might call him: **Лёвушка** Lyovushka

Full Name: **Татьяна Никитична Толстая** Tatiana Nikitichna Tolstaya
Father's name: **Никита** Nikita
Business associates call her: **Татьяна Никитична** Tatiana Nikitichna
Friends call her: **Таня** Tanya
Grandma might call her: **Танюша** Tanyusha

Full Name: **Фёдор Михайлович Достоевский** Fyodor Mihailovich Dostoevsky
Father's name: **Михаил** Mikhail
Business associates call him: **Фёдор Михайлович** Fyodor Mikhailovich
Friends call him: **Федя** Fedya
Grandma might call him: **Феденька** Fedenka

Full Name: **Наталья Владимировна Баранская** Natalya Vladimirovna Baranskaya
Father's name: **Владимир** Vladimir
Business associates call her: **Наталья Владимировна** Natalya Vladimirovna
Friends call her: **Наташа** Natasha
Grandma might call her: **Наташенька** Natashenka

A more complete and detailed (but not exhaustive) list of first names, patronymics and diminutives is available from Masha Holl at:

- <http://mashaholl.com/cyrillic.html> (Russian)
- <http://mashaholl.com/russiannames.html> (English)