

## Translation Tips

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### GERMAN: A Little Practice with German Handwriting

Print	Script	Samples	In our alphabet	Meaning
A a	À á	À ðalbrt	Adalbert	Adalbert [Wojciech]
Ä ä	Ä ä	nämlif	nämlich	namely, by name
B b	B b	B aünr, bnrðryt	Bauer, beerdigt	farmer, buried
C c	C c	C ffrüry, aüf	Chirurg, auch	surgeon, also
D d	D d	Donau, und	Donau, und	Danube, and
E e	E e	E fmann	Ehemann	husband
F f	F f	F rindryf, M aüfn	Friedrich, Taufe	Frederick, baptism
G g	G g	G norry, gnb.	Georg, geb.	George, née
H h	H h	H aüptmann, Jofr	Hauptmann, Jahr	captain, year
I i	I i	I nnung, im	Innung, im	guild, in the
J j	J j	J ofr, jüny	Jahr, jung	year, young
K k	K k	K ätfnr, K aßolif	Käthner, katholisch	cottager, Catholic
L l	L l	L nrling, lebndig	Lehrling, lebendig	apprentice, alive
M m	M m	M ädfnr, S ümmnr	Mädchen, Summer	girl, summer
N n	N n	N aßt, J üni	Nacht, Juni	night, June
O o	O o	O rßlryiðon, of	Ortslexikon, oft	gazetteer, often
Ö ö	Ö ö	Ö ffrerif, fön	Österreich, schön	Austria, beautiful
P p	P p	P ffrer, prrüßif	Pfarrer, preussich	minister, Prussian
Q q	Q q	Q ülln, qüßtinn	Quelle, quittieren	source, give a receipt
R r	R r	R ryinryßbzir	Regierungsbezirk	administrative area
S s	S s	S ffrin, ift, n aßt	Schein, ist, nachts	certificate, is, at night
T t	T t	T aynlöfnr, V afr	Tagelöhner, Vater	day-laborer, father
U u	U u	U fr, übnðann	Uhr, unbekannt	hour, unknown
Ü ü	Ü ü	übnßfn	übersetzen	to translate
V v	V v	V afr, n aynlöfif	Vater, evangelisch	father, Evangelical
W w	W w	W itnon, W itnr	Witwe, Witwer	widow, widower
X x	X x	X brif or X bris	Xbris	abbr. for December
Y y	Y y	Y aynnr	Bayern	Bavaria
Z z	Z z	Z nrygn, z wölf	Zeuge, zwölf	witness, twelve

## General German Vocabulary & Abbreviations

*a. D.* = *außer Dienst*, retired; also can be *Anno Domini*, in the year of our Lord  
*a. d. h.* = *aus dem Hause*, “from the house”  
*Alter*: age; *Altersschwäche*: senility  
*\*ausgewandert*: emigrated  
*Auszehrung*: tuberculosis  
*b. v.* = *beide von*, “both from”  
*Bäcker, Becker*: baker  
*Bauer*: farmer; *Bauernknecht*: farmhand  
*Beerdigung*: burial  
*begr.* = *begraben*, “buried”  
*Bergmann*: miner  
*Bettler*: beggar  
*Beulenpest*: bubonic plague  
*Bezirk*: district  
*Binder*: cooper  
*Blattern*: smallpox  
*Bleichsucht*: anemia  
*Blinddarmentzündung*: appendicitis  
*Blut*: blood; *Blutfluß*: hemorrhage; *Blutvergiftung*: blood poisoning  
*\*Borussia*: Prussia  
*Bräune*: diphtheria, angina  
*Brustkrankheit*: pneumonia, tuberculosis  
*Bürger*: burgher, townsman  
*\*bzw.:* *beziehungsweise*, “respectively, or”  
*Charge*: military rank  
*Chirurg*: surgeon  
*\*d. h.* = *das heißt*, “that is, i. e.”  
*dergl., desgl.* = *dergleichen, desgleichen*: “the same”  
*Diener*: servant  
*Drost*: bailiff  
*ehel.* = *ehelich*, “legitimate”  
*ehelich*: legitimate  
*ehemalig*: former; *ehemals*: formerly  
*Ehemann*: husband; *Ehefrau*: wife  
*Eigenmann*: serf, vassal  
*eigenhändig*: in one’s own hand  
*Einlieger*: free agricultural laborer  
*Entbindung*: delivery (of a child)  
*entjungfert*: deflowered  
*Entkräftung*: weakening, debilitation  
*Ergänzungsbezirk*: supplemental district  
*erstgeboren*: firstborn  
*evang.* = *evangelisch*, “Protestant”

*fallende Krankheit, Fallsucht*: epilepsy  
*Fäule*: cancer, abcess, sepsis  
*Fehlgeburt*: miscarriage  
*Feldwebel*: non-commissioned officer  
*\*Gärtner*: gardener, farmer with a bit of land  
*Gatte*: husband; *Gattin*: wife  
*\*geb.* = *geboren*, “born, née”  
*Gefreiter*: lance corporal  
*Gehirnschlag*: stroke  
*\*Gemeinde*: community, parish  
*Gerber*: tanner  
*\*Geschwister*: brother or sister, sibling  
*Geschwulst*: dropsy, swelling  
*Geselle*: journeyman  
*gest.* = *gestorben*, “died”  
*get.* = *getauft*, “baptized”  
*getr.* = *getraut*, “married”  
*Gevatter*: godparent  
*Gicht*: gout  
*Gift*: poison  
*\*Gm.* = *Gemeinde*, “parish”  
*Gutsbesitzer*: estate owner  
*Halsentzündung*: throat infection  
*Händler*: merchant, trader  
*Handwerker*: craftsman  
*\*Häusler*: cottager (& day-laborer)  
*Hausvater*: “father of the house”  
*\*Hebamme*: midwife  
*\*Heimatortskartei*: homeland card-file (per Thode a register of addresses of over 18 million people from Poland, Soviet Union, and other German-speaking territories living there in 1939; address: Heimatortskarteien, Lessingstraße 1, W-8000 München, Germany)  
*Heirathserlaubnis*: marriage permit  
*Herdstättensteuer*: hearth-tax  
*Herzanfall, Herzschlag*: heart attack  
*Hirt*: herdsman  
*Hitzschlag*: heat stroke  
*Hofbesitzer*: farm owner  
*Hofmann*: manorial estate administrator, farmer  
*Holzhauer, Holzknecht*: woodcutter  
*\*Huber*: farmer of a half-sized farm; *Hübner, Hüfner*: owner of a full-sized farm

\*i. V. = *in Vertretung*, “on behalf of,” or *in Vollmacht*, “as proxy”  
*Imker*: beekeeper  
*Impfung*: vaccination  
*Jgfr.* = *Junfrau*, “maiden, virgin”  
*Jäger*: hunter  
*Jammer*: epilepsy  
*Jngfr.* = *Jungfrau*, “maiden, miss”  
*Junggeselle*: apprentice  
 \*K. u. k. = *Kaiserlich und Königlich*: Royal and Imperial (Austrian Empire)  
*Kähler*: coal merchant  
*Kärrner*: freight handler, carter  
*Kästner*: steward, treasurer, carpenter  
*Katasterbuch*: book of deeds  
 \**Kätner*: cottager (with a small house and a little land, maybe a few cows)  
*Kaufmann*: merchant  
*Keßler*: kettle-maker, coppersmith  
*Kgf.* = *Kriegsgefangener*: “prisoner of war”  
*Kindbettfieber*: puerperal fever  
*Kinderlahmung*: infantile paralysis  
*Kirchenbücher*: church registers  
*Kleinhändler*: retail merchant  
*Knecht*: farmhand  
*Koch*: cook  
*Köhler*: charcoal burner  
*Koter*: cottager (owned a little land)  
 \**Kr.* = *Kreis*, “county” (= Polish *powiat*)  
*Kramer, Krämer*: one who has a small stall or shop for selling inexpensive goods  
*Kränke*: epilepsy  
*Krebs*: cancer  
*Kretschmer*: innkeeper  
*Krüger, Krueger*: innkeeper  
 \**Kurland*: Courland (now in Latvia)  
*Kürschner*: furrier  
*Lähmung*: paralysis  
*Landesbezirk*: administrative district  
 \**Landsturm*: military home guard (for those age 43-50)  
 \**Landwehr*: local militia (for those 35-42)  
*Landwirt*: farmer  
*laut*: according to  
*Lazarett*: field hospital  
*led.* = *ledig*, “single”  
*Lehrling, Lehrjunge*: apprentice  
*Lungenentzündung*: pneumonia

*Mägd.* = “servant girl, maid”  
*Mälzer*: maltster, brewer  
*männl.* = *männlich*, “masculine”  
 \**Marasmus*: decrepitude, weakness  
*Maurer*: bricklayer, stonemason  
*Meier*: farmer, estate overseer  
*Meldeamt*: registration office  
*Metzger*: butcher  
*minderjährig*: minor, not of legal age  
 \**Morgen*: unit of land measure (the amount an ox can plow in one morning)  
*Müller, Mueller*: miller  
*nämlich*: namely, to wit  
*Ober-*: upper, over, superior  
*Ohnmacht*: unconsciousness, fainting  
*Ortsansässiger*: resident of the place, local  
*Pächter*: renter, tenant (*Pacht*: lease)  
*Pate*: godfather; *Patin*: godmother  
 \**Personalausweis*: identity card  
*Pest*: plague  
*Pf.* = *Pfenning*, “penny”  
*Pfarramt*: parish office  
*Pfr.* = *Pfarrer*, “minister”  
*Richter*: judge  
*Rose*: erysipelas  
*Rößler*: horseman; tanner  
*Röteln*: German measles, rubella  
 \**Rückwanderer*: returning emigrant  
*Ruhestand*: retirement  
*S. d.* = *Sohn des*, “son of”  
*S. v.* = *Sohn von*, “son of”  
*Säger*: sawyer  
*samt.* = “together with”  
*Säugling*: infant  
*Schäfer, Schaefer*: shepherd  
*Scharlachfieber*: scarlet fever  
*Scharwerker*: day-laborer (on a farm)  
*Schlächter*: butcher  
*Schlag, Schlaganfall*: stroke  
*Schleimfieber*: typhus  
*Schmidt*: smith  
*Schneider*: tailor  
*Schnitzer*: woodcarver  
*schriftlich*: in writing  
*Schröder, Schroeder*: tailor  
 \**Schulz*: village magistrate, mayor (= Polish *sołtys*)  
*Schumann, Schuster*: shoemaker

*Schütze*: hunter, military rifleman  
*Schwinde*: consumption, tuberculosis  
*Skorbut*: scurvy  
*\*Standesamt*: civil registration office  
*Stellmacher*: wheelwright  
*T. d.* = *Tochter des*, “daughter of”  
*\*Tagelöhner*: day-laborer  
*Täufling*: one being baptized  
*to[d]tgeboren*: stillborn  
*Trabant*: foot soldier  
*u.* = *und*, “and”  
*u. d.* = *und des, und der*, “and of”  
*unehelich*: illegitimate  
*\*Untauglichkeitsschein*: certificate of unsuitability for military service  
*v.* = *von*, “from”  
*Vergiftung*: poisoning  
*verh.* = *verheiratet*, “married”  
*verl.* = *verlobt*, “engaged”  
*Verschollener*: one missing, declared dead  
*\*Vogt, Voigt*: bailiff, sheriff (= Polish *wójt*)  
*volljährig*: of age, no longer a minor

*Vormund*: guardian  
*Wächter*: watchman, guard  
*Wagner*: carter  
*Waise*: orphan  
*Wärter*: caretaker  
*Wassersucht*: dropsy, edema  
*Weber*: weaver  
*weibl* = *weiblich*, “feminine”  
*\*weil.* = *weiland*, “late, deceased”  
*Wirt*: innkeeper, landlord  
*Wochenfieber*: puerpural fever  
*Wohnstätte*: place of residence  
*Wwe.* = *Witwe*, “widow”  
*Wwer.* = *Witwer*, “widower”  
*X*: Christ; ten; or short for *Ksiądz* (Rev.)  
*Zeuge*: witness  
*Ziegler*: brickmaker  
*Zigeuner*: Gypsy  
*Zimmermann*: carpenter  
*Zunftmeister*: guild master  
*Zwang*: diarrhea  
*Zwilling*: twin

## LATIN: TITLES INDICATIVE OF SOCIAL STATUS

Polish vital records often contained titles or terms that indicate the social status or rank of the individuals mentioned in them. In many cases, the status described has no real equivalent in English, as the concepts described are foreign to American contemporary culture. In such cases the literal English meaning, or the closest rough equivalent, of the title is provided, even though the full “flavor” of the expression is somewhat diluted.

### Terms for Nobles and the Clergy

The following are all adjectives, declined either like *magnus* (those ending in *-us*) or like *fortis* (those ending in *-is*).

Latin	Polish	English	Used to address:
<i>illustrissimus ac magnificus</i>	<i>jaśnie wielmożny</i>	The Honorable	magnate, senator
<i>magnificus</i>	<i>wielmożny</i>	Esq., Your Honor	an official of the court
<i>generosus</i>	<i>urodzony</i>	“well born”	owner of at least one village
<i>nobilis</i>	<i>szlachetny</i>	noble	owner of a parcel, or leaseholder
<i>spectabilis</i>	<i>godny</i>	worthy	wealthy patrician from a large city
<i>honoratus</i>	<i>zacny</i>	honorable	patrician
<i>famosus/famatus</i>	<i>ślawetny</i>	renowned	middle class craftsman

<i>providus/circumspectus</i>	<i>opatrny</i>	provident	a poor craftsman
<i>honestus</i>	<i>uczciwy</i>	honest	farmer from a small town
<i>laboriosus</i>	<i>pracowity</i>	industrious	peasant
<i>infidelis/perfidus</i>	<i>niewierny, przewrotny</i>	non-believer	non-Christian
<i>reverendissimus</i>	<i>przewielebny</i>	Very Reverend	Bishop Ordinary
<i>reverendus</i>	<i>wielebny</i>	Reverend	abbot, bishop, suffragan
<i>venerabilis</i>	<i>dostojny</i>	distinguished, venerable	pastor
<i>honorabilis</i>	<i>czcigodny</i>	venerable, honorable	rural pastor or assistant pastor

### Terms for Commoners

Latin	Polish	Notes
<i>cmetho, cmethonis</i>	<i>kmieć</i>	a generally self-supporting peasant with at least one <i>tan</i> of land
<i>semi-cmetho</i>	<i>półkmieć</i>	a peasant farmer on ½ <i>tan</i> of land
<i>hortulanus, hortulani</i>	<i>zagrodnik</i>	a peasant farmer who owned a house with a small piece of land and garden and usually a small stock of farm animals
	<i>ogrodnik</i>	in some areas used interchangeably with <i>zagrodnik</i> , in some areas implying less land
	<i>chatupnik</i>	a farmer with at least a house ( <i>chatupa</i> )
<i>inquilinus, inquilini</i>	<i>komornik</i>	a farmer who lived with another
	<i>kątnik</i>	a farmer or a worker on a large estate
<i>famulus, famuli</i>	<i>parobek</i>	generally landless farm worker or worker on an estate
<i>arator, aratoris</i>	<i>rataj</i>	a <i>zagrodnik</i> who also worked at a large estate farm
	<i>gbur</i>	used in the German partition, a wealthy peasant, frequently free from serf labor obligations
<i>colonus, coloni</i>	<i>kolonista</i>	originally meant “settler” or colonizer, later acquired the meaning of “poor peasant”
<i>agricola, agricolæ</i>	<i>rolnik</i>	a general term in the 19th century to describe a peasant

### MONTHS OF THE YEAR

Januarius, Januarii	Julius, Julii
Februarius, Februarii	Augustus, Augusti
Martius, Martii	September, Septembris, 7bris, VIIbris
Aprilis, Aprilis	October, Octobris, 8bris, VIIIbris
Maius, Maii	November, Novembris, 9bris, IXbris
Junius, Junii	December, Decembris, 10bris, Xbris

The names of the months are actually considered adjectives modifying the unexpressed noun *mensis*, month. Those ending in *-us* are declined like nouns of the Second Declension, so that the

genitive singular ends in *-i*, the ablative in *-o*. *Aprilis, September, October, November* and *December* are declined like nouns of the Third Declension, with the genitive singular in *-is*, ablative in *-i*.

Observant readers may note that *September, October*, etc. should mean “seventh month, eighth month,” and so on. In ancient Rome the year was reckoned as beginning with March, so that under that system September was the seventh month, October the eighth, etc. When the calendar was changed the months kept their original days. This makes the abbreviations *7bris, 8bris* very confusing, because we would expect them to refer to July and August, when in fact they refer to September and October. When you see these abbreviations, it helps to replace the numeral with the Roman name, i. e., 7 = *septem*, which reminds us that *7bris* refers to September.

### DAYS OF THE WEEK

There were several different names for days of the week, using either *dies* (day) and the name of a god, or *feria* plus a simple ordinal:

Sunday:	<i>dies Solis</i> (day of the Sun), <i>dies dominica, feria prima</i>
Monday:	<i>dies Lunæ</i> (day of the Moon), <i>feria secunda</i>
Tuesday:	<i>dies Martis</i> (day of Mars), <i>feria tertia</i>
Wednesday:	<i>dies Mercurii</i> (day of Mercury), <i>feria quarta</i>
Thursday:	<i>dies Jovis</i> (day of Jove), <i>feria quinta</i>
Friday:	<i>dies Veneris</i> (day of Venus), <i>feria sexta</i>
Saturday:	<i>dies Saturni</i> (day of Saturn), <i>feria septima</i> (or <i>Sabbatum</i> )

### RENDERING OF DATES

Dates are usually given in Latin by rendering the year and day in the ablative case, and the month in the genitive, according to the pattern “[in] the —th year, [on] the —th day of the month of —.” Often the priests or clerks, having no great desire to torture themselves, would simply write the name down in numerical form, which we can read easily. But many forms mandated that the date be written out in full. Consider this date:

*Anno Domini millesimo octingentesimo quinquagesimo primo, die decimo septimo Octobris*

It is certainly a mouthful! But you may actually see dates given this way, so it is wise to be familiar with the pattern.

First, *anno* is the ablative singular of *annus*, year, and “Anno Domini” (“in the year of [Our] Lord”) is a familiar expression, so at least you know right away that what follows is the year something happened. Reference to the dictionary and a quick review of the ablative endings tell us *millesimo* is the term for “thousand,” *octingentesimo* means “eight hundred,” *quinquagesimo* means “fiftieth,” and *primo* means “first.” So this happened in the one thousand eight hundred fifty-first year of Our Lord: 1851.

Then we note that *die* is the ablative singular of the Fifth Declension noun *dies*, “day,” so now we proceed to decipher the month and day. Reference to a dictionary tells us that *decimo septimo* is an ablative form of the expression meaning “seventeenth.” *Octobris* is genitive of *October*; in some cases we might see the word *mensis*, “month,” preceding *Octobris*, but it isn’t really necessary and in either case we understand what is being said. With this information we state confidently that the date was “17 October 1851.”

## General Latin Vocabulary & Abbreviations

*advocatus*: lawyer; as an official, a mayor or town wójt

*advena*: alien, foreigner; *corrupta advena*: non-Catholic foreigner (?)

*aetas*: age; *aetate*: at the age of \_\_\_

*ancilla*: servant, maid

*Anno Dni* = *Anno Domini*, “year of our Lord”

*annorum*: “of years,” = age

*ao.* = *anno*, “in the year”

*apoplexia*: stroke

*apothecarius*: druggist, shopkeeper

*arator*: farmer, plowman

*auriga*: coachman

*bannis*: banns

*benedixi hoc matrimonium*: I blessed this marriage

*ca.* = *circa* “about”

*caelebs*: single, bachelor

*capella*: chapel

*caupo*: innkeeper

*cerdo*: day-laborer, tanner

*chirurgus*: surgeon

*civis*: citizen, burgher (= German *Bürger*)

\**commendarius*: pastor

*conjuges*: married couple, spouses; *c. f. l.* = *conjugum filius legitimus*, legitimate son of a married couple

*consanguinarius*: blood relative

*consensus*: agreement, permission

*cooperator*: assistant pastor

*copulatio*: wedding, marriage

*coquus* (masc.) or *coqua* (fem.): cook

*cor*: heart

*cruditas*: dyspepsia, indigestion

*curator*: pastor, as an official, a supervisor; *curator medici*: doctor

*custos*: guard; a custodian or supervisor

*d. d.* = *de dato* (on this date)

*debilitas*: weakness

*decanatus*: deanery (subdivision of a diocese)

*decessit sine prole* (*d.s.p.*): died without issue

\**deflor.* = *deflorata*, “deflowered”

\**deft.* = *defunctus*, “deceased”

*denatus*: deceased

\**dictus*: “said,” i. e., called, known as”

*die*: from *dies*, “on [such-and-such a] day”

*dies vitae*: “day of life,” i. e., age

*dioecesis*: diocese

*dispensatio*: dispensation for a marriage that would otherwise be against Church law

*Dmni* = *Domini*, “of the lord”

*dolor*: pain; *dolore capitis*: head pain; *dolore pectoris*: chest pain

*domicilium*: domicile, legal residence

*dominus*: lord (= Polish *pan*, German *Herr*)

*ducatus*: duchy

*E. et O. R.* = *errore et omissione reservata*, “error and omission reserved”

*E. R.* = *errore reservata*, “error reserved”

*ead.* = *eadem*, “the same”

*ecclesia*: church

*economus*: steward, estate official overseeing farm workers

*ejus*: of that one = “his” or “hers”

\**-ensis*: suffix added to the name of a town or village, e. g. *cracoviensis* = “of Kraków”

*eod.* = *eodem*, “the same”; *eod. q. supra* = *eodem quo supra*: “the same day as above”

*eques*: knight

*eructatio*: vomiting

*faber*: smith, craftsman; *faber ferri*: blacksmith; *faber lignarius*: carpenter; *faber murarius*: mason, brick-maker

*famella*: servant girl

*febris nervosa*: “nervous fever”

*filia*: daughter

*filius*: son

*frater*: brother

*gemellus, geminus*: twin

*germanus*: with the same parents

*habuit*: had; *habuit ultra 100 annorum*: was more than 100 years old

*haeres*: squire, landed proprietor, heir, heiress

*heri*: yesterday

*hospes*: innkeeper

\**hujatis*: local (? < *hujus*, “of this [place]”)

*ictus*: stroke; *fulmine ictus*: struck by lightning

*ignotus*: not known

*impedimentum*: impediment to a marriage (legal reason against it)

*incola*: inhabitant, day-laborer

*inquilinus*: tenant, landless day-laborer

*juvenis*: youth, young man, groom  
*\*levantes*: godparents  
*magister*: teacher, master; *magister civium*:  
 mayor; *magister ludi*: schoolmaster;  
*magister stabuli*: master of the stable  
*majorennis*: of legal age  
*manu propria*: in one's own hand  
*marita*: married woman, wife  
*maritus*: married man, husband  
*materfamilias*: "mother of the family"  
*medicus*: doctor, physician  
*mendicus*: beggar  
*mensis*: month  
*mercator*: merchant, trader  
*miles*: soldier  
*\*modo*: now, alias (used with married names  
 or acquired names)  
*morbus*: illness, cause of death  
*murarius* or *murator*: mason  
*N. N.* = *nomen nescio*, "I do not know the  
 name"  
*nat.* = *natus* or *nata*, "born"  
*naturalis*: "natural," i. e., illegitimate  
*neophytus*: convert, one newly baptized  
*nomen*: name  
*obiit*: died; *obitus*: death; *obitus est*: he died  
*obstetrix*: midwife  
*officium*: office; *ex officio parochiali*: from the  
 parish office  
*\*olim*: deceased, late  
*opilio*: shepherd  
*oppidum*: village, small town  
*organarius parochialis*: parish organist  
*ortus*: birth, origin; *ortus solis*: east  
*pagus*: village, district  
*palatinatus*: palatinate, province (in Polish  
*województwo*)  
*parochia*: parish; *parochialis*: parish, parochial  
*parochus*: parish pastor  
*paterfamilias*: "father of the family"  
*patrina*: godmother  
*patrini*: godparents  
*patrinus*: godfather  
*pauper*: pauper  
*pectus*: chest; *dolor pectoris*: chest pain  
*\*phthisis*: tuberculosis  
*plebanus*: priest, pastor, vicar

*primogenitus*: first-born  
*proles*: child, offspring  
*propter*: due to, on account of  
*puella*: girl  
*puer*: boy  
*puerperium*: childbirth  
*\*recte*: properly, correctly, rightly  
*\*relicta*: widow; *relictus*: widower  
*ren.* = *renatus* or *renata*, "baptized, reborn"  
*rusticus*: peasant, landless laborer  
*Sacramentis munitis* or *Sa~tis provisus*: the  
 Last Rites having been administered  
*sartor*: tailor  
*\*scultetus*: village administrator [Polish *sołtys*]  
*senectus*: old age; *propter senectutem*: due to  
 old age  
*senex*: old man  
*sepultus est*: was buried  
*servus*: servant  
*sine*: without  
*socer*: father-in-law  
*soror*: sister  
*spur.* = *spurius* or *spuria* illegitimate  
*st. n.* = *stilo novo*, "New Style" date  
*sutor*: shoemaker  
*tabernator*: innkeeper  
*testes*: witnesses  
*textor*: weaver  
*\*thorus*: literally "bed," usually used to  
 indicate legitimate or illegitimate birth  
*tussis* or *tussio*: [whooping] cough  
*tutor*: guardian  
*uhlanus*: cavalryman  
*ut supra*: as [stated] above  
*ux.* = *uxor*, "wife"; *uxoratus*: married  
*variola*: smallpox  
*venditor*: merchant, vendor  
*vicarius*: curate, assistant pastor  
*vid.* = *viduus*, "widower," or *vidua*, "widow"  
*villanus*: villager  
*virgo*: virgin, maiden  
*\*voto*: marriage, thus *1<sup>o</sup> voto*, "1st marriage,"  
*2<sup>do</sup> voto*, "2nd marriage," etc.  
*\*vulgo*: in the common language, commonly  
 known as  
*yusd.* = *ejusdem*, "of the same (month or  
 year)"

## RUSSIAN: THE CYRILLIC ALPHABET

<i>Printed</i>	<i>Cursive</i>	<i>English</i>	<i>Polish</i>	<i>Lith.</i>	<i>Printed</i>	<i>Cursive</i>	<i>English</i>	<i>Polish</i>	<i>Lith.</i>
<b>А а</b>	<i>А а</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>a, ą</i>	<b>Т т</b>	<i>Т т</i>	<i>t</i>	<i>t</i>	<i>t</i>
<b>Б б</b>	<i>Б б</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<b>У у</b>	<i>У у</i>	<i>u</i>	<i>u</i>	<i>u, u, ū</i>
<b>В в</b>	<i>В в</i>	<i>v</i>	<i>w</i>	<i>v</i>	<b>Ф ф</b>	<i>Ф ф</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>f</i>
<b>Г г</b>	<i>Г г</i>	<i>g, h</i>	<i>g, h</i>	<i>g</i>	<b>Х х</b>	<i>Х х</i>	<i>h, kh</i>	<i>ch, h</i>	<i>ch, h</i>
<b>Д д</b>	<i>Д д</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>d</i>	<b>Ц ц</b>	<i>Ц ц</i>	<i>ts</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>
<b>Е е</b>	<i>Е е</i>	<i>(y)e</i>	<i>e, ie, je</i>	<i>[i]e, ę, é</i>	<b>Ч ч</b>	<i>Ч ч</i>	<i>ch</i>	<i>cz</i>	<i>č</i>
<b>Ё ё</b>	<i>Ё ё</i>	<i>(y)o</i>	<i>o, io, jo</i>	<i>[i]o</i>	<b>Ш ш</b>	<i>Ш ш</i>	<i>sh</i>	<i>sz</i>	<i>š</i>
<b>Ж ж</b>	<i>Ж ж</i>	<i>zh</i>	<i>ż</i>	<i>ž</i>	<b>Щ щ</b>	<i>Щ щ</i>	<i>shch</i>	<i>szcz</i>	<i>šč</i>
<b>З з</b>	<i>З з</i>	<i>z</i>	<i>z</i>	<i>z</i>	<b>Ъ ъ</b>	<i>Ъ ъ</i>	—	—	—
<b>И и</b>	<i>И и</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>y, i</i>	<b>Ы ы</b>	<i>Ы ы</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>i</i>
<b>Й й</b>	<i>Й й</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>j</i>	<i>j, i</i>	<b>Ь ь</b>	<i>Ь ь</i>	,	—	—
<b>К к</b>	<i>К к</i>	<i>k</i>	<i>k</i>	<i>k</i>	<b>Э э</b>	<i>Э э</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>e</i>
<b>Л л</b>	<i>Л л</i>	<i>l</i>	<i>l</i>	<i>l</i>	<b>Ю ю</b>	<i>Ю ю</i>	<i>yu, yoo</i>	<i>u, iu, ju</i>	<i>iu, ju</i>
<b>М м</b>	<i>М м</i>	<i>m</i>	<i>m</i>	<i>m</i>	<b>Я я</b>	<i>Я я</i>	<i>ya, ia</i>	<i>a, ia, ja</i>	<i>ia, ja</i>
<b>Н н</b>	<i>Н н</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>Archaic Characters</i>				
<b>О о</b>	<i>О о</i>	<i>o</i>	<i>o</i>	<i>o</i>	<b>Ѣ ѣ</b>	<i>Ѣ ѣ</i>	<i>(i)e</i>	<i>e, ie, je</i>	<i>(i)e</i>
<b>П п</b>	<i>П п</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>p</i>	<b>І і</b>	<i>І і</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>y, i</i>
<b>Р р</b>	<i>Р р</i>	<i>r</i>	<i>r</i>	<i>r</i>	<b>Ѵ ѵ</b>	<i>Ѵ ѵ</i>	<i>i, y</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>y, i</i>
<b>С с</b>	<i>С с</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>	<b>Ѧ ѧ</b>	<i>Ѧ ѧ</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>f</i>

The Russian language is written in the Cyrillic alphabet, as are a number of other Slavic languages, including Bulgarian, Belarusian, Ukrainian, Serbian, and Macedonian. This alphabet differs markedly from the Roman alphabet used in most western European languages, including English, Polish, etc. Shown above is the version of Cyrillic used in modern Russian, including several archaic characters not used since the Russian Revolution, with approximate equivalents in English, Polish, and Lithuanian. Please understand from the start that these “equivalents” are **very approximate**.

The Cyrillic alphabet is named after St. Cyril, 827-869, a Christian missionary; he and his brother St. Methodius (825-885) are regarded as the Apostles to the Slavs because they were the first to convert Slavs to Christianity, in Moravia. Traditionally St. Cyril is credited with creating this alphabet, adapted to Slavic phonetics, so that he could produce a written translation of the Scriptures into Old Church Slavonic. The brothers were clergymen of the Eastern Church, in which Greek was the language of the liturgy, and the characters of the Cyrillic alphabet were drawn largely from the Greek alphabet. Special characters were created for sounds typical of the Slavic languages but absent in Greek—**Ѣ** and **Ѥ** are said to have been modeled after Hebrew **צ** and **ץ**, respectively. The Cyrillic alphabet has been modified considerably since then, and different Slavic languages use slightly different versions; thus reference to the “Russian” alphabet is to the version used by that language, as opposed to the version used in Belarusian or Ukrainian, for instance.

Note that there are 33 characters in the modern Russian alphabet. Before orthographic reforms introduced after the Russian Revolution in 1917, there were 37. The four characters no longer used are marked separately in the chart on page 9. They still appear in records from before 1917, and thus will be seen in many of the records of interest to genealogical researchers. Modern dictionaries seldom feature them, thus they require some attention.

## 1. THE ARCHAIC CHARACTERS

**Ѣ Ѣ** *Ŭ ŭ*

This symbol has been replaced in modern Russian by **Е**. Originally the sound represented by **Ѣ** was distinct from **Е**, but during the course of the language’s development they both came to be pronounced in a like manner. Note the following examples:

<i>Old Orthography</i>	<i>Present Orthography</i>	<i>English Phonetics</i>
<i>лѣтъ</i>	<i>лет</i>	<i>lyet</i>
<i>нѣтъ</i>	<i>нет</i>	<i>nyet</i>

**І і** *Ŭ i*

This symbol had the same sound value as the letter **И**, by which it was replaced. The **І** occurred primarily before another vowel, and infrequently in other linguistic environments. The following examples are commonly used lexical items in vital records:

<i>Old Orthography</i>	<i>Present Orthography</i>	<i>English Phonetics</i>
<i>присутствіи</i>	<i>присутствии</i>	<i>prisutstvi</i>
<i>крещеніе</i>	<i>крещение</i>	<i>kreshchenie</i>

We often see this symbol in research because it appears in surnames ending in **–ski**:

<i>Адамскій</i>	<i>Адамский</i>	<i>Adamski</i>
<i>Ольшевскій</i>	<i>Ольшевский</i>	<i>Olszewski</i>

The other two archaic characters are less likely to be encountered in the course of genealogical research—one tends to see them mainly in theological contexts—but are offered here for reference purposes:

Θ θ ϑ ϑ

An equivalent of Russian Ф (the sound of *f*), this symbol appeared in words borrowed from Greek. Incidentally, perhaps you're saying "I thought Greek Θ represented a *th* sound, and Φ was a *ph* sound." Exactly so, in classical Greek. But by Cyril's time some of the phonetic values of Greek had changed from their classical values; and since then there has been enough time for further alteration. It's no surprise some letters have come to be sounded differently.

Υ υ ϒ ϒ

Deriving from the Greek letter υ, *upsilon*, this symbol had the same sound value as И.

## 2. Other Characters Needing Special Attention

Ъ ъ Ъ ѡ

One final aspect of the spelling reforms we should note is the modification of the use of the symbol ъ, known as the "hard sign" (in Russian *твёрдый знак*). This symbol, formerly a vowel, gradually lost its sound value and was used most frequently after consonants in final word position to indicate they were pronounced as hard consonants rather than soft. This particular function of the symbol was eliminated by the post-Revolution spelling reforms.

Old Orthography	Present Orthography
Адамъ	Адам
стаканъ	стакан

This symbol continues to be used in modern Russian, but appears infrequently; when it does appear, it usually follows verbal prefixes, e. g. *объяснить*.

Ь ь Ъ ѡ

The "soft sign" ь (*мягкий знак*) likewise symbolized a vowel sound at one point, but in modern Russian it indicates palatalization or softening of the consonant it follows.

Ы ы Ъ ѡ

This symbol still retains its vowel quality. It is difficult to describe in print, but can best be summarized as a short *ɨ* sound, somewhat as in English "ship." It always follows a hard, i. e., non-palatalized, consonant. In Polish it is roughly comparable to the sound of the vowel *y*.

Note that the characters ъ, ь, and ы never begin words, and thus their uppercase forms are encountered only when a word is printed in all uppercase forms, for emphasis. The symbols ъ and ь do not really correspond to any letter in the Roman alphabet as used in English; when Russian words are transliterated into English, those symbols are usually disregarded. In academic usage the soft sign ь is often represented with an apostrophe, i. e., *мать* may be rendered as *mat'*.

[Note: the material in this section, used with permission, is from the book *In Their Words: A Genealogist's Translation Guide to Polish, German, Latin, and Russian Documents: Volume 2: Russian*, due to be published by Language & Lineage Press in late 2001 or early 2002. See the [Language & Lineage Press Website](#) for details.

## POLISH: TERMS FOR OCCUPATIONS

It is difficult to decide what list of terms can be given in this limited space that might be most helpful to Polish researchers. But I see a lot of requests for translations of terms denoting occupations, so perhaps that's a good choice. This list of terms for occupations often appearing in records includes many that are archaic, i. e., they are no longer used in modern Polish, or are still used but with different meanings, e. g., *koszykarz* can now mean "basketball player"! And *myśliwiec*, once "hunter," is now refers to a fighter plane or fighter pilot. This list is from *In Their Words... Volume 1: Polish*, and is reproduced with permission.

<i>akuszerka, akuszerki:</i> (f.) midwife	<i>czapnik, czapnika:</i> (m.) cap-maker
<i>aptekarz, aptekarza:</i> (m.) druggist	<i>czeladnik, czeladnika:</i> (m.) journeyman (in a guild)
<i>archiwista, archiwisty:</i> (m., declined as if fem.) archivist	<i>czynszownik, czynszownika:</i> (m.) a person who paid rent ( <i>czynsz</i> )
<i>arendarz karczmy, arendarza karczmy:</i> (m.) publican, innkeeper	<i>dachówkarz, dachówkarza:</i> (m.) roofer
<i>bakałarz, bakałarza:</i> (m.) teacher	<i>dekarz, dekarza:</i> (m.) roofer
<i>bankier, bankiera:</i> (m.) banker	<i>doktor, doktora:</i> (m.) doctor
<i>bartnik, bartnika:</i> (m.) beekeeper	<i>dozorca, dozorczy:</i> (m., declined as if fem. in sing.) supervisor, guard
<i>bednarz, bednarza:</i> (m.) cooper	<i>druciarz, druciarza:</i> (m.) wiremaker
<i>białoskórnik, białoskórnik:</i> (masc.) tanner, leather-dresser, skin-dresser	<i>drukarnia, drukarza:</i> (m.) printer
<i>bibliotekarz, bibliotekarka:</i> (m.) librarian	<i>dziedzic, dziedzica:</i> (m.) country gentleman, heir, squire
<i>biedak, biedaka:</i> (m.) pauper	<i>dziekan, dziekana:</i> (m.) deacon, priest heading a deanery
<i>biskup, biskupa:</i> (m.) bishop	<i>dzierżawca, dzierżawcy:</i> (m., declined as if fem. in sing.) lease-holder
<i>blacharz, blacharza:</i> (m.) tinsmith	<i>dzwonnik, dzwonnika:</i> (m.) bell-ringer
<i>blicharz, blicharza:</i> (m.) bleacher	<i>ekonom, ekonomia:</i> (m.) estate steward or supervisor
<i>brązownik, brązownika:</i> (masc.) brazier, brass-founder	<i>fabrykant, fabrykanta:</i> (m.) factory-owner, manufacturer
<i>brukarz, brukarza:</i> (m.) paver	<i>fajciarz, fajciarza:</i> (m.) pipe-maker
<i>buchalter, buchaltera:</i> (m.) bookkeeper	<i>farbiarz, farbiarza:</i> (m.) dyer
<i>budowniczy, budowniczego:</i> (m., adj. used as a noun) builder	<i>felczer, felczera:</i> (m.) doctor's assistant, army surgeon
<i>burmistrz, burmistrza:</i> (m.) mayor	<i>fornal, fornala:</i> (m.) groom, stable-boy
<i>cegielnik, cegielnika:</i> (m.) brick-maker	<i>furman, furmana:</i> (m.) driver of farm wagon or cart
<i>ceglarz, ceglarza:</i> (m.) brick-maker	<i>garbarz, garbarza:</i> (m.) tanner
<i>cełnik, celnika:</i> (m.) customs officer	<i>gonciarz, gonciarza:</i> (m.) shingler
<i>chałupnik, chałupnika:</i> (m.) cottager, one who makes products at home for sale	<i>górnik, górnika:</i> (m.) miner
<i>chłop, chłop:</i> (m.) peasant	
<i>cieśla, cieśli:</i> (m., declined as if fem. in sing.) carpenter	
<i>cukiernik, cukiernika:</i> (m.) candy-maker	
<i>cyrulik, cyrulika:</i> (m.) barber, surgeon	

*gospodarz, gospodarza:* (m.) farmer (one fairly well off, owning his own land)  
*gospodyni, gospodyni:* (f.) wife of a *gospodarz*  
*grabarz, grabarza:* (m.) gravedigger  
*gremplarz, gremplarza:* (m.) card-maker  
*grzebieniarz, grzebieniarza:* (m.) comb-maker  
*guzikarz, guzikarza:* (m.) button-maker  
*gwóździarz, gwóździarza:* (m.) nail-maker  
*hafciarz, hafciarza:* (m.) silk weaver  
*handlarz, handlarza:* (m.) merchant, trader;  
*handlarz ryb:* fish merchant; *handlarz sera:* cheese merchant; *handlarz soli:* salt merchant; *handlarz starzyzną:* junk dealer  
*iglarz, iglarza:* (m.) needle-maker  
*introligator, introligatora:* (m.) bookbinder  
*jubiler, jubilera:* (m.) jeweler  
*kaflarz, kaflarza:* (m.) tiler  
*kamieniarz, kamieniarza:* (m.) stonemason, stonecutter  
*kapelusznik, kapelusznika:* (m.) fuller  
*karczmarz, karczmarza:* (m.) barkeeper  
*kierownik, kierownika:* (m.) director  
*klucznik, klucznika:* (m.) steward, guard  
*kołodziej, kołodzieja:* (m.) wheelwright  
*kolonista, kolonisty:* (m., declined as if fem.) settler, colonist, farmer  
*komornik, komornika:* (m.) tenant farmer  
*korcarz, korcarza:* (m.) grain merchant  
*korzenny:* (adj.) having to do with spice or roots; *kupiec korzenny:* spice buyer  
*koszykarz, koszykarza:* (m.) basket-maker  
*kotlarz, kotlarza:* (m.) boilermaker, coppersmith  
*kowal, kowala:* (m.) blacksmith; *kowal podkuwacz:* horseshoe maker  
*kramarz, kramarza:* (m.) merchant, stall-keeper  
*krawcowa, krawcovej:* (f., declined as an adj.) dressmaker  
*krawiec, krawca:* (m.) tailor  
*ksiądz, księdza:* (m.) priest  
*księgarz, księgarza:* (m.) bookseller  
*kucharka, kucharki:* (f.) cook (female)

*kucharz, kucharza:* (m.) cook (male)  
*kunst, kunsztu:* (m.) craft, trade, artistry  
*kupiec, kupca:* (m.) merchant, shopkeeper  
*kuśnierz, kuśnierza:* (m.) furrier  
*lakiernik, lakiernika:* (m.) varnish maker  
*lalkarz, lalkarza:* (m.) doll-maker  
*łatacz, łatacza:* (m.) patcher; *łatacz obuwia:* cobbler  
*ławnik, ławnika:* (m.) assessor, town councillor  
*lekarz, lekarza:* (m.) doctor  
*leśnik, leśnika:* (m.) forester  
*listonosz, listonosza:* (m.) mailman  
*lokaj, lokaja:* (m.) footman, valet  
*ludwisarz, ludwisarza:* (m.) plumber, founder  
*mączarz, mączarza:* (m.) miller  
*majster; majstra:* (m.) master craftsman, e. g., *majster kunsztu krawieckiego,* master tailor  
*malarz, malarza:* (m.) painter  
*marynarz, marynarza:* (m.) sailor  
*masztalerz, masztalerza:* (m.) stableman  
*mleczarz, mleczarza:* (m.) dairyman  
*młócarz, młócarza:* (m.) thresher  
*młynarz, młynarza:* (m.) miller  
*mnich, mnicha:* (m.) monk  
*mosiężnik, mosiężnika:* (m.) brass-worker, bell-maker  
*mularz, mularza:* (m.) bricklayer, mason  
*murarz, murarza:* (m.) bricklayer, mason  
*muzyk, muzyka* (nom. pl. *muzycy*): (m.) musician  
*muzykant, muzykanta:* (m.) musician  
*mydlarz, mydlarza:* (n.) soap-maker  
*myśliwiec, myśliwca:* (m.) hunter  
*myśliwy, myśliwego:* (m., adj. used as a noun) hunter  
*najemnik, najemnika:* (m.) hired man, day-laborer  
*nauczyciel, nauczyciela:* (m.) teacher (male)  
*nauczycielka, nauczycielki:* (f.) teacher (female)  
*notariusz, notariusza:* (m.) notary  
*nożownik, nożownika:* (m.) knife-maker

*oberżysta, oberżysty:* (m., declined as if fem.)  
 saloon-keeper  
*ogrodnik, ogrodnika:* (m.) peasant farmer,  
 one who owned and worked a garden-  
 sized plot rather than a full-sized farm  
*ogrodowy, ogrodowego* (m.) gardener  
*okupnik, okupnika:* (m.) tenant farmer  
*olejarz, olejarza:* (m.) oilman  
*oracz, oracza:* (m.) farmer  
*organista, organisty:* (m., declined as if fem.  
 in sing.) organist  
*owczarz, owczarza:* (m.) shepherd, sheep-  
 farmer (fem. *owczarka, owczarki*)  
*pachciarz, pachciarza:* (m.) tenant  
*papiernik, papiernika:* (m.) paper-maker  
*parasolnik, parasolnika:* (m.) umbrella-  
 maker  
*parobek, parobka:* (m.) farmhand  
*paśnik, paśnika:* (m.) belt-maker  
*pasterz, pasterza:* (m.) shepherd  
*perfumiarz, perfumiarza:* (m.) perfume-  
 maker  
*perukarz, perukarza:* (m.) wig-maker  
*piekarz, piekarza:* (m.) baker  
*pisarz, pisarza:* (m.) scribe, clerk, writer  
*piwowar, piwowara:* (m.) brewer  
*plóciennik, plóciennika:* (m.) one who makes  
 or sells linen products  
*poborca podatkowy, poborcy podatkowego:*  
 (m., declined as if fem. in the singular)  
 tax collector  
*pogrzebowy, pogrzebowego:* (m., adj. used as  
 a noun) funeral director  
*pończosznik, pończosznika:* maker of hosiery  
*postrzygacz sukna, postrzygacza sukna:* (m.)  
 cloth-shearer  
*powroźnik, powroźnika:* (m.) rope-maker  
*prac, praca:* (m.) laundryman  
*pracza, praczki:* (f.) laundrywoman  
*proboszcz, proboszcza:* (m.) pastor  
*prochownik, prochownika:* (m.) maker of  
 gunpowder  
*producent, producenta:* (m.) manufacturer,  
 producer  
*przekupień, przekupnia:* (m.) vendor  
*pszczelarz, pszczelarza:* (m.) beekeeper  
*pudełkarz, pudełkarza:* (m.) box-maker,  
 chest-maker  
*puszkarz, puszkarza:* (m.) gunsmith  
*rabin, rabina:* (m.) rabbi  
*rachmistrz, rachmistrza:* (m.) calculator,  
 book-keeper  
*rękawicznik, rękawicznika:* (m.) glover  
*robotnik, robotnika:* (m.) worker, laborer  
*rolnik, rolnika:* (m.) farmer  
*rybak, rybaka:* (m.) fisherman  
*rymarz, rymarza:* (m.) saddler, harness-  
 maker  
*rytownik, rytownika:* (m.) engraver  
*rządca, rządcy:* (m., declined as if fem.)  
 administrator, steward; *rządca dóbr*  
 (*Kosielnicy*): estate administrator (of, for  
 instance, *Kosielnica*)  
*rzemieślnik, rzemieślnika:* (m.) craftsman  
*rzeźak, rzeźaka:* (m.) butcher; among Jews, a  
 kosher butcher, or one who performs  
 circumcisions  
*rzeźnik, rzeźnika:* (m.) butcher  
*sędzia, sędziego* (in sing. declined like an adj.  
 or a feminine noun): (m.) judge  
*siodlarz, siodlarza:* (m.) saddler  
*sitarz, sitarza:* (m.) sieve-maker  
*skarbnik, skarbnika:* (m.) treasurer  
*śledziarz, śledziarza:* (m.) herring merchant  
*stodownik, stodownika:* (m.) maltster  
*stuga, stugi:* (m., declined as if fem.) servant  
 (male); *stuga kościelny:* church sexton  
*ślusarz, ślusarza:* (m.) iron worker, lock-  
 smith  
*stłużąca, stłużącej:* (f.) maidservant  
*stłużący, stłużącego:* (m.) servant (male),  
 domestic, manservant, menial  
*sokolnik, sokolnika:* (m.) falconer  
*sołtys, sołtysa:* (m.) village administrator  
*spekulant, spekulanta:* (m.) money lender  
*śpiewaczka, śpiewaczki:* (f.) singer (female)  
*śpiewak, śpiewaka:* (m.) singer (male)  
*sprzedarz, sprzedarza:* (m.) dealer, merchant,  
 seller

*sprzedawca, sprzedawcy:* (m., declined as if fem. in sing.) seller, merchant  
*śrutownik, śrutownika:* (m.) grinder  
*stelmach, stelmacha:* (m.) wheelmaker, carriage maker  
*stolarz, stolarza:* (m.) cabinet-maker  
*strażnik, strażnika:* (m.) guard, sentry, watchman  
*stróż, stróża:* (m.) guard  
*strycharz, strycharza:* (m.) brickmaker  
*strzelec, strzelca:* (m.) rifleman  
*studniarz, studniarza:* (m.) well-digger  
*sukiennik, sukiennika:* (m.) cloth-maker  
*świecarz, świecarza:* (m.) candlemaker  
*świniopas, świniopasa:* (m.) swineherd  
*szewc, szewca:* (m.) shoemaker  
*szklarz, szklarza:* (m.) glazier  
*szkolnik, szkolnika:* (m.) teacher; among Jews, *shul* attendant or assistant  
*szmuklerz, szmuklerza:* (m.) haberdasher  
*szpitalnik, szpitalnika:* (m.) attendant at a church, synagogue, or shelter for the aged and needy  
*szwaczka, szwaczki:* (f.) seamstress  
*szynkarz, szynkarza:* (m.) tavern owner, innkeeper  
*tapicer, tapicera:* (m.) upholsterer  
*targownik, targownika:* (m.) peddler, trader  
*tkacz, tkacza:* (m.) weaver  
*tokarz, tokarza:* (m.) lathe operator  
*tracz, tracza:* (m.) sawyer  
*tragarz, tragarza:* (m.) porter  
*trębacz, trębacza:* (m.) trumpeter  
*uczeń, ucznia:* (m.) student  
*urzędnik, urzędnika:* (m.) clerk, official;  
*Urzędnik Stanu Cywilnego:* Vital Records Registrar  
*waciarz, waciarza:* (m.) quilt-maker  
*warzelnik soli, warzelnika soli:* (m.) salt-maker  
*wędlinarz, wędlinarza:* (m.) pork butcher  
*wekslarz, wekslarza:* (m.) money-changer  
*wikariusz, wikariusza:* (m.) assistant pastor, vicar, curate  
*winiarz, winiarza:* (m.) wine merchant

*winogrodnik, winogrodnika:* wine-maker  
*właściciel, właściciela:* (m.) owner  
*włościanin, włościanina:* (m.) peasant farmer  
*włościanka, włościanki:* (f.) peasant farmer (female)  
*woskarz, woskarza:* (m.) waxmaker  
*woźny, woźnego:* (m., adj. used as a noun) caretaker, janitor; in older Polish, a legal officer, beadle  
*wyrobница, wyrobnicy:* (f.) day-laborer (female)  
*wyrobnik, wyrobnika:* (m.) day-laborer (male)  
*wytapiacz, wytapiacza:* (m.) founder, smelter  
*wytwórca, wytwórcy:* (m., declined as if fem.) manufacturer, e. g., *wytwórca butelek* (bottlemaker), *skrzyn* (box-maker), *jedwabiu* (silk-maker), *maści* (maker of ointments, salves)  
*X. in older documents, short for Książd*  
*Xiądz → książd*  
*zagrodnik, zagrodnika:* (m.) farmer  
*zakonnica, zakonnicy:* (f.) nun  
*zakrystjan, zakrystjana:* (m.) sexton  
*zamszownik, zamszownika:* suede shoe maker  
*zarządca, zarządcy:* (m., declined as if fem.) manager, administrator  
*zastępca, zastępcy:* (m., declined as if fem.) substitute, deputy  
*zdun, zduna:* (m.) potter  
*żebrak, żebraka:* (m.) beggar  
*zegarmistrz, zegarmistrza:* (m.) watchmaker  
*zielarz, zielarza:* (m.) herbalist  
*złotnik, złotnika:* (m.) goldsmith  
*żołnierz, żołnierza:* (m.) soldier; *żołnierz dymisjonowany:* discharged soldier  
*zwierzchnik, zwierzchnika:* (m.) superior, lord