

## RUSSIAN

### 16th century

The first loan-words from Russian that are commonly known appear in the latter half of the 16th century. Most borrowings are used in a context that refers to or describes Russian affairs, and so remain relatively unassimilated in their reference.

<i>Russian</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>MnE</i>
boy-rin - a former order of Russian aristocracy	1591	boyar
tsar'	1555	czar/tsar
kvas - a beer made from rye	1553	kvass
muzhik - a Russian peasant	1568	muzhik
ruble - the unit of currency	1554	rouble

The next Russian loan-words are recorded in the 18th century.

### 18th century

<i>Russian</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>MnE</i>
balaika - a musical instrument like a guitar.	1738	balaika
knut - "The Knout is a thick hard Thong of Leather of about three Foot and a half long, fasten'd to the end of a handsome Stick about two Foot and a half long, with a Ring or kind of Swivle like a Flail at the end of it, to which the Thong is fasten'd."	1716	knout
parka - originally an Aleutian word from Russian for a skin jacket, and recently revived.	1780	parka
ukase - A decree or edict, having the force of law, issued by the Russian emperor or government.	1729	ukase

### 19th century

<i>Russian</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>MnE</i>
borshch	1884	borsch
borzoi	1887	borzoi
dacha	1896	dacha
kulak	1877	kulak
pogrom, devastation, destruction. An organized massacre in Russia for the destruction or annihilation of any body or class: originally and especially applied to those directed against the Jews.	1882	pogrom
samovar	1830	samovar
A Russian vehicle drawn by three horses abreast.	1842	troika 1
vodka	1802	vodka

### 20th century

Some loan-words from the Soviet era referring to political issues have acquired a wider reference:

<i>Russian</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>MnE</i>
agitprop, f. agitsiya agitation + propaganda propaganda.	1934	agitprop
apparat - the party machine of the Communist party in Russia	1950	apparat
apparatchik - a member of the apparat ( <i>see below</i> )	1941	apparatchik
babushka - 1 grandmother, f. baba (peasant) woman. 2 a head-scarf.	1938	babushka
bolshevik	1917	Bolshevik
Cominform - the first elements of the Russian forms of communist and information	1947	Cominform
komiss-r	1918	commissar
dezinformatsiya - the dissemination of deliberately false information.	1955	disinformation
glasnost - the fact of being public; openness to public scrutiny or discussion	1972	glasnost
gopak - a dance.	1929	gopak

gulag - The system of forced labour camps for political prisoners in the former Soviet Union (not in the <i>Oxford English Dictionary</i> )	?	gulag
idiogramma - a diagrammatic or systematized representation of a chromosome complement	1927	idiogram
intelligentsiya	1907	intelligentsia
kalashnikov - an automatic rifle of Russian manufacture.	1970	kalashnikov
likvidirovat' - in the sense of to liquidate, wind up, ie to put an end to, abolish; to stamp out, wipe out; to kill.	1924	liquidate
perestroika - restructuring The restructuring or reform of the Soviet economic and political system, first proposed at the 26th Party Congress in 1979 and actively promoted under the leadership of Mikhail Gorbachev from 1985.	1981	perestroika
politbyuro, from politicheskoe, political + byuro, bureau. The highest policy-making committee of the former U.S.S.R., or of some other Communist country or party	1926	politburo
refusenik - partial translation of Russian otkaz-nik, from otkaz-tí to refuse. A Jew in the Soviet Union who has been refused permission to emigrate to Israel.	1975	refusenik
samizdat - Russian abbreviation of samoizd-tel'stvo self-publishing house. The clandestine or illegal copying and distribution of literature	1967	samizdat
sotsialist cheskia reallzm. The official theory of art and literature of the Soviet Communist party	1934	socialist realism
sovét (council)	1917	Soviet
sputnik, literally travelling companion. An unmanned artificial earth satellite	1957	sputnik
troika 2 - (a later, developed meaning from troika 1 above) A group or set of three persons or categories of people associated in power	1945	troika 2