

The different uses of the Simple Present

Das Präsens or die Gegenwart: The Simple Present is the only present tense existing in German. (There is no **gerund** or **-ing** form)

1. To say what are you doing at the moment:

- Ich **gehe gerade** spazieren (I'm having a walk)

Gerade: It is used when talking of something you are doing now and not of something you are doing regularly.

2. To say what are you doing sometimes regularly:

- Du **spielst** jaden Sonntag Tennis (You play tennis every Sunday)

3. Talk about something you will do in the future:

- Er **fährt** morgen in den Urlaub (He goes on vacation tomorrow)

4. Tell facts, proves or sayings:

- Die Wurzel von 4 **ist** 2(The root of 4 is 2)

5. Talk about something in the past (Scenic Present):

- Die Sonne schien. Plötzlich **donnert** es.(The sun was shining. Suddenly it thunders.)

6. Talk about something started in the past but not ended yet:

- Ich **warte** schon seit zwei Stunden. (I already wait for two hours.)

7. Cite something a person said in the past or an event that happened in the past:

- Kurfürst **sagt**: Nur die Weisesten und die Dummsten können sich nicht ändern. (Confucius says: It is only the wisest and stupidest that cannot change.)

- Das Jahr 1989: Die Berliner Mauer **fällt**. (Year 1989: The Berlin Wall falls)

References:

1. <https://youtu.be/zU69M8-IS2Y?si=N-fThr6X2RbZEAK1>
2. <https://easy-deutsch.com/tenses/german-present-tense/>
3. <https://routetogermany.com/german-language/beginning-german/present-tense>