

DE A1 German Alphabet & Basics – Cheatsheet

Tips:

- Learn letters + pronunciation first — this helps reading all German words.
- Pair letters with sample words to practice sound and spelling.
- Include days, months, and numbers for everyday use.

1 German Alphabet (A–Z) with Sample Nouns

Letter	Letter Pronunciation	Example Noun	Noun Pronunciation	English
A	ah	der Apfel	der ap-fel	apple
Ä	eh	das Mädchen	das meh-dchen	girl
B	beh	das Brot	das bro-teh	bread
C	tseh	der Computer	der kom-poo-ter	computer
D	deh	der Hund	der hoond	dog
E	eh	das Ei	das ay	egg
F	eff	der Fisch	der fish	fish
G	geh	der Garten	der gar-ten	garden
H	hah	das Haus	das hows	house

Letter	Letter Pronunciation	Example Noun	Noun Pronunciation	English
I	ee	die Insel	<i>dee in-zel</i>	island
J	yot	der Junge	<i>der yung-geh</i>	boy
K	kah	die Katze	<i>dee kaht-zeh</i>	cat
L	ell	die Lampe	<i>dee lam-peh</i>	lamp
M	emm	die Mutter	<i>dee mu-ter</i>	mother
N	enn	die Nacht	<i>dee nahkt</i>	night
O	oh	das Obst	<i>das ohbst</i>	fruit
Ö	er	der Ölbaum	<i>der uhl-baum</i>	olive tree
P	peh	der Park	<i>der park</i>	park
Q	koo	die Qualle	<i>dee kva-leh</i>	jellyfish
R	err	die Rose	<i>dee roh-zeh</i>	rose
S	ess	die Sonne	<i>dee zon-neh</i>	sun
ß	ess-tsett	die Straße	<i>dee shtrah-seh</i>	street
T	teh	der Tisch	<i>der tish</i>	table
U	oo	die Uhr	<i>dee ohr</i>	clock/watch
Ü	ue	das Über	<i>das ue-ber</i>	over
V	fau	der Vogel	<i>der foh-gel</i>	bird
W	veh	das Wasser	<i>das vah-ser</i>	water
X	ix	das Taxi	<i>das tak-see</i>	taxi
Y	üpsilon	das Yoga	<i>das yo-ga</i>	yoga

Letter	Letter Pronunciation	Example Noun	Noun Pronunciation	English
Z	<i>tset</i>	der Zug	<i>der tsoog</i>	train

2 Numbers (1–20)

German	English	Pronunciation
eins	1	<i>ayns</i>
zwei	2	<i>tsvy</i>
drei	3	<i>dry</i>
vier	4	<i>feer</i>
fünf	5	<i>fuenf</i>
sechs	6	<i>zex</i>
sieben	7	<i>zee-ben</i>
acht	8	<i>ahkt</i>
neun	9	<i>noin</i>
zehn	10	<i>tsayn</i>
elf	11	<i>elf</i>
zwölf	12	<i>tsvuelf</i>
dreizehn	13	<i>dry-tsayn</i>
vierzehn	14	<i>feer-tsayn</i>
fünfzehn	15	<i>fuenf-tsayn</i>
sechzehn	16	<i>zex-tsayn</i>

German	English	Pronunciation
siebzehn	17	<i>zeeb-tsayn</i>
achtzehn	18	<i>ahkt-tsayn</i>
neunzehn	19	<i>noin-tsayn</i>
zwanzig	20	<i>tsvan-tsig</i>

3 Days of the Week

German	English	Pronunciation
der Montag	Monday	<i>mon-tahk</i>
der Dienstag	Tuesday	<i>deens-tahk</i>
der Mittwoch	Wednesday	<i>mitt-vokh</i>
der Donnerstag	Thursday	<i>don-ers-tahk</i>
der Freitag	Friday	<i>fry-tahk</i>
der Samstag	Saturday	<i>zahm-stahk</i>
der Sonntag	Sunday	<i>zon-tahk</i>

4 Months

German	English	Pronunciation
der Januar	January	<i>yah-noo-ahr</i>
der Februar	February	<i>feh-broo-ahr</i>
der März	March	<i>mehrts</i>

German	English	Pronunciation
der April	April	<i>ah-pril</i>
der Mai	May	<i>my</i>
der Juni	June	<i>yoo-nee</i>
der Juli	July	<i>yoo-lee</i>
der August	August	<i>ow-goost</i>
der September	September	<i>zehp-tem-ber</i>
der Oktober	October	<i>ok-to-ber</i>
der November	November	<i>no-vem-ber</i>
der Dezember	December	<i>de-tsem-ber</i>

5 Phonetic Tips with Example Nouns

Letter/Combination	Sound Guide	Example Noun
ch	soft “kh” like Scottish “loch”	das Buch
sch	“sh”	die Schule
ei	“eye”	der Wein
ie	“ee”	die Biene
au	“ow”	die Frau
äu / eu	“oy”	der Freund
w	“v”	das Wasser
v	“f”	der Vogel

Letter/Combination	Sound Guide	Example Noun
z	“ts”	der Zug

6 Extra Tips for Beginners

- Always pronounce letters and combinations together — German is very phonetic.
- Practice days, months, and numbers daily — they appear in almost all conversations.
- Combine letters with nouns and phrases from your A1 PDFs to build sentences.
- Color coding helps memory: vowels (A, E, I, O, U) can be highlighted.
- Listen and repeat — pronunciation is key for fluency later.

Follow me on Twitter: [@nimrod_zw](#) | GitHub: github.com/nimrodzw/German-learning-toolkit