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.

1️⃣ German Alphabet (A–Z) with Sample Nouns

Letter	Pronunciation	Example Noun	English
A	*ah*	der Apfel	apple
Ä	*eh*	das Mädchen	girl
B	*beh*	das Brot	bread
C	*tseh*	der Computer	computer
D	*deh*	der Hund	dog
E	*eh*	das Ei	egg
F	*eff*	der Fisch	fish
G	*geh*	der Garten	garden
H	*hah*	das Haus	house

Letter	Pronunciation	Example Noun	English
I	*ee*	die Insel	island
J	*yot*	der Junge	boy
K	*kah*	die Katze	cat
L	*ell*	die Lampe	lamp
M	*emm*	die Mutter	mother
N	*enn*	die Nacht	night
O	*oh*	das Obst	fruit
Ö	*er*	der Ölbaum	olive tree
P	*peh*	der Park	park
Q	*koo*	die Qualle	jellyfish
R	*err*	die Rose	rose
S	*ess*	die Sonne	sun
ß	*ess-tsett*	die Straße	street
T	*teh*	der Tisch	table
U	*oo*	die Uhr	clock/watch
Ü	*ue*	das Über	over
V	*fau*	der Vogel	bird
W	*veh*	das Wasser	water
X	*ix*	das Taxi	taxi
Y	*üpsilon*	das Yoga	yoga
Z	*tset*	der Zug	train

2 Numbers (1–20)

German	English	Pronunciation
eins	1	*ayns*
zwei	2	*tsvy*
drei	3	*dry*
vier	4	*feer*
fünf	5	*fuenf*
sechs	6	*zex*
sieben	7	*zee-ben*
acht	8	*ahkt*
neun	9	*noin*
zehn	10	*tsayn*
elf	11	*elf*
zwölf	12	*tsvuelf*
dreizehn	13	*dry-tsayn*
vierzehn	14	*feer-tsayn*
fünfzehn	15	*fuenf-tsayn*
sechzehn	16	*zex-tsayn*
siebzehn	17	*zeeb-tsayn*
achtzehn	18	*ahkt-tsayn*
neunzehn	19	*noin-tsayn*

German	English	Pronunciation
zwanzig	20	*tsvan-tsig*

3️⃣ Days of the Week

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

4️⃣ Months

German	English	Pronunciation
der Januar	January	*yah-noo-ahr*
der Februar	February	*feh-broo-ahr*
der März	March	*mehrts*
der April	April	*ah-pril*
der Mai	May	*my*
der Juni	June	*yoo-nee*

German	English	Pronunciation
der Juli	July	*yoo-lee*
der August	August	*ow-goost*
der September	September	*zehp-tem-ber*
der Oktober	October	*ok-to-ber*
der November	November	*no-vem-ber*
der Dezember	December	*de-tsem-ber*

5️⃣ 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
z	"ts"	der Zug

6️⃣ 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