

# German Alphabet Worksheet



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The German alphabet has twenty-six basic letters, like the Latin alphabet. We can find them in two variants: uppercase and lowercase. German uses five basic vowels: -A, -E, -I, -O, and -U (uppercase) and -a, -e, -i, -o, and -u (lowercase).

It also uses twenty-one basic consonants: -B, -C, -D, -F, -G, -H, -J, -K, -L, -M, -N, -P, -Q, -R, -S, -T, -V, -W, -X, -Y, and -Z (uppercase), and -b, -c, -d, -f, -g, -h, -j, -k, -l, -m, -n, -p, -q, -r, -s, -t, -v, -w, -x, -y, and -z (lowercase).



## 1 The German alphabet and phonetic pronunciation:

A	a	ah	J	j	yott	S	s	es
B	b	bay	K	k	kah	T	t	tay
C	c	tsay	L	l	ell	U	u	ooh
D	d	day	M	m	em	V	v	fow
E	e	ay	N	n	en	W	w	vay
F	f	eff	O	o	oh	X	x	ix
G	g	gay	P	p	pay	Y	y	uep-si-lohn
H	h	haa	Q	q	koo	Z	z	tset
I	i	eeh	R	r	er			

**Note:** The provided alphabet list above offers phonetic pronunciation; the actual spelling for each letter is similar but not the same.

The German language additionally uses three letters with diacritics and one ligature. We call the diacritic letters Umlaute ("umlauts"), while we call the ligature Eszett (sharp-s).

The German language uses three diacritic letters in uppercase and lowercase: -Ä, -Ö, and -Ü (uppercase), and -ä, -ö, and -ü (lowercase). Although these letters represent distinct sounds in the German phonology, Germans usually do not consider them part of the alphabet. When asked to say the alphabet, Germans will just count the twenty-six cardinal Latin letters and will name the umlauts only when asked to do so explicitly.

The sharp -s, is called Eszett and written as ß. The Eszett looks similar to the lowercase Greek "beta", but the curve is not closed at the bottom (ß). Eszett only exists in a lowercase version because it can never occur at the beginning of a word or sentence.

Ä	ä	<i>ä similar to the e in melon</i>
Ö	ö	<i>ö similar to the i in girl</i>
Ü	ü	<i>ü similar to the u in superb</i>
ß	ß	<i>ß double s sound</i>

A language's alphabet is its building blocks. Trying to learn how to write in German without first learning its alphabet is a bit like trying to build a brick house without touching the individual bricks! It is impossible to do a good job that way. So don't believe language schools and methods that try to teach you otherwise. You will regret it later.

Also, once you start recognizing symbols and words, you will be encouraged by your own progress and motivated to learn even faster. Even just learning the basics of the alphabet will allow you to start recognizing simple German words, and it will feel great!

Furthermore, knowing the alphabet even helps with pronunciation, as learning the individual letters of any language will start uncovering nuances and intricacies that are not always apparent when you're simply listening to the words.

Completely mastering the German alphabet, no matter how long it takes, will give you an excellent head start in learning how to write and read the language. It will offer you a solid foundation on which to build the other language skills, so set a goal to learn the alphabet so well that you're able to recite it in your sleep!

## 2 Vocabulary and Pronunciation Practice:

Using the correct pronunciation of the German alphabet practice saying the words below;



Zahn  
*tooth*



Schere  
*scissors*



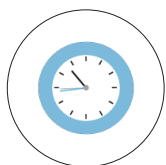
Hund  
*dog*



essen  
*eat*



Wasser  
*water*



Uhr  
*clock*



Schuh  
*shoe*



Katze  
*cat*



Buch  
*book*



Juli  
*July*

### 3 Vocabulary and Alphabet Practice:

Fill in the German word for the vocabulary;



tooth

Z			N
---	--	--	---



scissors

S			E		
---	--	--	---	--	--



dog

	U		D
--	---	--	---



eat

		S		N
--	--	---	--	---



water

W				E	
---	--	--	--	---	--



clock

	H	
--	---	--



shoe

		H		H
--	--	---	--	---



cat

K		T		
---	--	---	--	--



book

	U		H
--	---	--	---



July

	U		I
--	---	--	---