Student Book + Workbook

Deutsch

A1

German for complete beginners

explained in English, step by step

Hallo!

Every noun has a gender:

der Tisch — masculine

die Lampe — feminine

das Buch — neuter

Ich heiße Ravi.

→ the verb is always in position 2!

14 chapters

280+ pages

✓ tests & answers

HS HUNDAL STUDIO
LANGUAGE BOOKS

Willkommen!

How to use this book

This is a student book and a workbook in one. Every chapter teaches you something new, lets you practise it straight away, tests you, and gives you all the answers — right after the chapter, so you never have to hunt for them.

Every chapter works the same way

Opener	What you will learn, and a route through the chapter. Tick the boxes at the end.
Teaching pages	Each rule explained step by step: what it means, why it exists, how to build it — with examples, diagrams and highlighted rules.
Quick check	A tiny test at the bottom of each teaching page. Do it before you turn the page.
Picture words	The chapter vocabulary with drawings. Say each word with its article, then cover the German and test yourself.
Tips & tricks	Picture hooks for your memory, plus common mistakes and real-life situations.
Übungen	Workbook exercises: fill-in, sorting, writing, translation, reading.
Kapiteltest	30 points. Score bands tell you whether to move on or review first.
Lösungen	All answers, directly after the chapter.

The colour code

Every German noun has a gender. We colour them so your eyes learn them for you:

der Tisch masculine · die Lampe feminine · das Buch neuter · die Bücher plural

Notes in the margin

✎ Blue handwriting is your teacher talking to you — a warning, a shortcut, or a little extra.

German in bold · English in grey · [sounds] in blue

20 minutes a day beats 3 hours on Sunday

Do one or two pages a day. Say every German example **out loud** — your mouth needs practice as much as your brain. When a chapter test goes well, celebrate; when it doesn't, go back to the pages the score bands tell you. Nobody learns a language in a straight line.

Hallo!

People you will meet



Ravi Kapoor

From India, just moved to Berlin for a job in IT. Learning German from zero — just like you.



Lena Weiß

From Hamburg. Ravi's friend and helper — she explains how things work in Germany.

Grammar words — explained simply

You don't need to love grammar. But these words appear in the book, so here they are once, in plain English.

Word	What it means	Example
noun	a person, thing or idea. In German always with a capital letter.	der Tisch, die Freude
article	the little word before a noun: the / a	der, die, das · ein, eine
gender	every German noun is masculine, feminine or neuter	der · die · das
verb	an action or state	wohnen, sein, essen
infinitive	the dictionary form of a verb (ends in -en/-n)	lernen, sprechen
conjugation	changing the verb to fit the person	ich lerne, du lernst
pronoun	a word that stands for a noun	ich, du, er, sie, es
subject	who or what does the action	**Ravi** trinkt Kaffee.
object	who or what receives the action	Ravi trinkt **den Kaffee**.
case	a change in the article that shows a word's job in the sentence	der → den → dem
adjective	a describing word	groß, rot, nett
preposition	a small word for place, time, direction	in, mit, nach, um

✎ Forget a word? Come back to this page — that's what it's here for.

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KAPITEL 1

1 Das Alphabet

Sounds of German — letters, vowels, umlauts, and how to spell your name on the phone

Before we start

Here is some good news: **German is an honest language.** Once you know how a group of letters sounds, it sounds that way almost every time.

English is different. Think of *though, through, tough* and *cough* — four spellings of *-ough*, four different sounds. German doesn't play that game. **ei** is always "eye", **ie** is always "ee", and an umlaut always changes a vowel in the same way.

That's why this book starts with **sounds**, not grammar. In your first week in Germany you will have to say your name at the doctor's, at the Bürgeramt or on a hotline — and someone will ask: **"Wie schreibt man das?"** *(How do you spell that?)* By the end of this chapter you can answer.

You don't need to sound like a native speaker. You need to be understood, and to recognise words when you hear them. That is the goal.

In this chapter you will learn to

- ☐ say the German alphabet and spell your name letter by letter
- ☐ tell a long vowel from a short one just by looking at the spelling
- ☐ pronounce **ä, ö, ü** and use **ß** correctly
- ☐ read **ei, ie, eu, au** and **ch, sch, sp, st** without guessing
- ☐ put the stress on the right part of a word
- ☐ spell names and email addresses on the phone

Tick each box when you can do it — then come back at the end of the chapter and check again.

Your route through the chapter

1 **Letters** p. 2–3
2 **Long & short** p. 4
3 **Umlauts & ß** p. 5
4 **Vowel pairs** p. 6
5 **Consonant teams** p. 7
6 **Endings** p. 8
7 **Phone** p. 9

Then: picture vocabulary p. 10 · tricks p. 11 · summary p. 12 · workbook p. 13–14 · test p. 15 · answers p. 16

Section 1 · Letters

The alphabet: 26 letters + 4 extras

German uses the same 26 letters as English, plus **ä, ö, ü** and **ß**. The shapes are familiar — but the **names** of several letters are not. Say each name out loud, then the example word.

A a — ah [aː] — der Apfel — apple	**B** b — bay [beː] — das Brot — bread	**C** c — tsay [tseː] — das Café — café	**D** d — day [deː] — das Dach — roof	**E** e — ay [eː] — das Essen — food, meal	**F** f — eff [ɛf] — das Fenster — window
G g — gay [geː] — der Garten — garden	**H** h — hah [haː] — das Haus — house	**I** i — ee [iː] — die Idee — idea	**J** j — yot [jɔt] — das Jahr — year	**K** k — kah [kaː] — der Kaffee — coffee	**L** l — ell [ɛl] — die Lampe — lamp
M m — emm [ɛm] — die Milch — milk	**N** n — enn [ɛn] — der Name — name	**O** o — oh [oː] — das Obst — fruit	**P** p — pay [peː] — die Post — post office	**Q** q — koo [kuː] — die Qualität — quality	**R** r — err* [ɛʁ] — das Radio — radio
S s — ess [ɛs] — die Sonne — sun	**T** t — tay [teː] — der Tisch — table	**U** u — oo [uː] — die Uhr — clock	**V** v — fow [faʊ] — der Vater — father	**W** w — vay [veː] — das Wasser — water	**X** x — iks [ɪks] — das Taxi — taxi
Y y — üp-si-lon ['ʏpsilɔn] — das Yoga — yoga	**Z** z — tset [tsɛt] — der Zug — train	**Ä** ä — long "eh" [ɛː] — der Käse — cheese	**Ö** ö — round "ay" [øː] — das Öl — oil	**Ü** ü — round "ee" [yː] — die Tür — door	**ß** — ess-tset [ɛs'tsɛt] — die Straße — street

How to read the tiles

Top right — the letter's German name, written as an English speaker would say it, then the exact sound in phonetic symbols [ ]. The symbols are optional: if you don't know them, use the grey hint and the example word.
Bottom — an example word, coloured by gender: der die das. Chapter 4 explains genders; for now, just notice them.
***R** — a soft sound at the back of the throat; page 8 shows how.

✎ E and I swap places compared with English: German **E** sounds like English "A", German **I** sounds like English "E".

✎ V and W are the next trap — see the next page.

Section 1 · Letters

Six letters that trick English speakers

Most consonants sound the way you expect. These six don't. If you fix only these, your German will already be much easier to understand.

Letter	German sound	Examples	Watch out
W	English **v** [v]	**das Wasser** water · **wo** where · **der Wein** wine	Never the English w of water.
V	English **f** [f]	**der Vater** father · **vier** four · **viel** a lot	In foreign words it is **v**: **das Video**, **die Vase**.
Z	**ts** as in cats [ts]	**der Zug** train · **zehn** ten · **die Zeit** time	Also **tz**: **die Katze** (cat). Never the buzzing z of zoo.
J	English **y** [j]	**ja** yes · **das Jahr** year · **der Juni** June	Not the j of jam.
S	before a vowel: **z** [z] at the end: **s** [s]	**die Sonne** sun · **sieben** seven · **das Haus** house	The "buzzing" sound English writes with z is written **s** in German.
ß	sharp **s** [s]	**die Straße** street · **groß** big	Looks like a B — it is a double s. Page S explains when to use it.

Say these sentences aloud

Wo wohnt Walter?
Where does Walter live?

Mein Vater hat viel Zeit.
My father has a lot of time.

Der Zug kommt um zehn.
The train comes at ten.

Ja, Jana ist im Juni in Japan.
Yes, Jana is in Japan in June.

Sieben Sonnen, sieben Seen.
Seven suns, seven lakes.

Letter names — the swap

When you **spell**, two pairs are reversed compared with English:
E = "ay" · **I** = "ee"
G = "gay" · **J** = "yot"

A learner named **Jessica** who spells in English — "jay, ee, ess …" — will be written down as **G-I-S…**. Use the German names: "yot, ay, ess, ess, ee, tsay, ah".

Rare letters

C — mostly in foreign words (**das Café**) and in the teams **ch**, **ck**, **sch**.
Q — always **qu**, said "kv": **die Qualität**.
X — "ks": **das Taxi**.
Y — "ü" in Greek words (**die Physik**), "y" in English words (**das Yoga**).

✎ Spelling your name with English letter names is one of the most common reasons forms come back wrong. Practise yours today.

Quick check Which sound do you hear? Circle it.

a **W** in *die Wurst* (sausage) → v / w
b **V** in *der Vogel* (bird) → f / v
c **Z** in *das Zimmer* (room) → ts / z
d **S** in *der Saft* (juice) → z / s

Answers p. 16

Section 2 · Vowels

Long or short? The spelling tells you

Every German vowel — a, e, i, o, u — comes in two versions: **long** and **short**. This is not a detail. It can change the meaning of a word completely.

Step 1 · Hear the difference

A long vowel is held, relaxed, like a note in a song. A short vowel is clipped and tense — your mouth snaps shut on the next consonant.

der Staat — *the state* — a:

die Stadt — *the city* — a

das Beet — *flower bed* — e:

Step 2 · Read the signals

LONG when you see:
① a double vowel — **aa, ee, oo**
② a vowel + **h** — the h is silent, it just stretches the vowel
③ **ie**
④ often: a vowel + one consonant (**Name, Tag, gut**)

SHORT when you see:
① a double consonant — **mm, nn, ll, tt, ss** …
② **ck** or **tz**
③ often: a vowel + two consonants (**Hand, Kind**)

Step 3 · See the rule at work

Signal	Long vowel	Signal	Short vowel
double vowel	**der Tee** tea · **das Boot** boat	double consonant	**das Bett** bed · **die Sonne** sun
vowel + h	**die Uhr** clock · **sehr** very	ck / tz	**der Zucker** sugar · **die Katze** cat
ie	**die Liebe** love · **vier** four	two consonants	**die Hand** hand · **das Kind** child

Step 4 · Pairs that change meaning

Long	Short
die Miete rent	**die Mitte** middle
der Ofen oven	**offen** open
das Beet flower bed	**das Bett** bed
ihn him	**in** in

Correct vs. incorrect

Ich wohne in der Stadt. *I live in the city.*
✓ short **a** in Stadt, like "shtat".
✗ a long "shtaat" sounds like der Staat — "I live in the state".

Honest exception: rule ④ is a tendency, not a law. A few very common short words break it — **das, mit, im, an** are short. Learn them as you meet them.

Quick check

Long (L) or short (S)? Look for the signals, then say the word.

a **das Meer** sea
b **der Mann** man
c **der Sohn** son
d **die Sonne** sun
e **das Bier** beer
f **bitte** please

Answers p. 16

✎ Easy way to remember: **double vowel → long, double consonant → short.** The doubled letter is a signal, not a second sound.

Section 3 · Umlauts

ä, ö, ü — two dots, a new sound

The two dots are called an **Umlaut**. They are not decoration: **a** and **ä** are different sounds, and swapping them can change a word into a different word.

The ü recipe — mix two sounds you already know



Say "ee"
lips spread, tongue high and forward

Round your lips for "oo"
keep the tongue where it was!

ü
the same recipe with "ay" gives **ö**

	How to make it	Long	Short
ä	like *e* in *bed*; long ä is held: "air" without the r	**der Käse** cheese	**die Männer** men
ö	say "ay", then round your lips	**schön** beautiful · **das Öl** oil	**zwölf** twelve
ü	say "ee", then round your lips	**die Tür** door · **grün** green	**fünf** five

One dot pair, a different word

Without	With umlaut
schon already	**schön** beautiful
zahlen to pay	**zählen** to count
die Mutter mother	**die Mütter** mothers
der Bruder brother	**die Brüder** brothers

Notice the last two: an umlaut often marks the **plural**. You will meet this again in Chapter 4.

ß or ss?

Both sound like a sharp **s**. The vowel before decides:
after a **long vowel** or **vowel pair** → **ß**
die Straße · **groß** · **heißen**
after a **short vowel** → **ss**
das Wasser · **die Klasse** · **essen**

No German keyboard?

Write **ae, oe, ue** and **ss**: *Müller* → *Mueller*, *Straße* → *Strasse*. This is correct and common in emails, URLs and on forms. In Switzerland, **ß** is never used — always **ss**.

✎ *Test yourself in a mirror: for ü your lips should look like oo — but it must sound bright, like ee.*

Quick check

ß or ss? Is the vowel before it long or short?

a **der Fu__** foot
b **die Ta__e** cup
c **wei__** white
d **das Schlo__** castle

Answers p. 16

Section 4 · Vowel pairs

ei or ie? Never guess again!

Four vowel pairs make one single sound. The famous trap is **ei** and **ie** — the same two letters, opposite order, completely different sounds.

The second-letter rule

ei say the name of i "eye"

mein · drei · nein



ie say the name of e "ee"

vier · Sie · wie

→ Look at the **second** letter, say its English letter name. Done!

ei = "eye" [aɪ]

drei *three* · **die Zeit** *time* · **das Ei** *egg*

also spelt **ai / ay**: der Mai, Bayern

ie = long "ee" [iː]

vier *four* · **die Liebe** *love* · **der Brief** *letter*

eu = "oy" [ɔʏ]

neu *new* · heute *today* · **der Euro**

äu too: **das Haus** → **die Häuser**

au = "ow" [aʊ]

das Haus *house* · **die Frau** *woman* · auch *also*

"ow!" – like when you bump your head

Read it aloud

Die neue Frau aus Bayern heißt Heidi.

The new woman from Bavaria is called Heidi.

Careful: D-**ie** = "dee", but B-**ay**-ern and h-**ei**-ßt = "eye"!

Easy to mix up

Wien *Vienna* ≠ **der Wein** *wine*

das Lied *song* ≠ **das Leid** *sorrow*

Order wine in Vienna: „Ein Wein in Wien, bitte!"

Quick check Write **eye** or **ee**: (answers p. 16)

a Wien __ b Wein __ c sieben __ d Seite __ e Brief __ f Kleid __

Section 5 · Consonant teams

ch, sch, sp, st — letters that work as a team

Some consonants join together to make one sound. The most important is **ch**, which has **two** sounds. Which one you use depends on the sound just before it.

How to say ch — follow the arrows

What comes just before the ch?

→ **a, o, u or au → "throat" ch** [x]
like Scottish *loch*: acht · das Buch · noch · auch

→ **anything else → "soft" ch** [ç]
ich · die Milch · das Mädchen · leicht · München
Whisper the h of *huge* with your tongue high — not "sh", not "k".

See both in one family: das Buch [x] → die Bücher [ç] · die Nacht [x] → die Nächte [ç]. The umlaut moves the vowel forward, so the ch follows it.

Team	Sound	Examples	Note
sch	English **sh**	die Schule school · der Fisch fish	**tsch** = English *ch*: **Deutsch, tschüss**
sp / st	**shp / sht** at the start of a word	der Sport · die Straße · **verstehen**	Inside a word: normal **sp/st** — das Fenster, **ist**
-ig	like **ich** at the end of a word	**zwanzig** · der König · **richtig**	In the south you'll also hear "-ik".
pf	**p** + **f** together	der Apfel · der Kopf head	Say both letters — don't drop the p.
ng	as in *singer*	**lang** long · die Zeitung newspaper	Never with a hard g (not *finger*).
chs	**ks**	**sechs** six · der Fuchs fox	
th / ph	**t / f**	das Theater · die Physik	No English *th* sound in German.

✎ **verstehen** = ver + stehen. "Start of a word" also means the start of a word part — so it's "ver-shtehen".

Quick check — Throat ch [x] or soft ch [ç]? Look at the letter before it.

a der Kuchen cake · b die Küche kitchen · c **lachen** to laugh
d das Licht light · e die Woche week · f **sprechen** to speak

Answers p. 16

Section 6 · Endings & stress

The end of a word — and where to push

Four small habits at the end of words make German sound German. Then one rule about stress lets you read words you have never seen.

① b, d, g at the end → p, t, k

At the very end of a word, German "hardens" these sounds. Add an ending and the soft sound comes back.

der Hund	[t]	**die Hunde**	[d]
der Tag	[k]	**die Tage**	[g]
das Kind	[t]	**die Kinder**	[d]

dog / dogs · day / days · child / children

② A final -e is never silent

English speakers drop it — *name* is "naym". In German you say it, as a short, relaxed "uh".

der Name "NAH-muh"
bitte "BIT-uh"
die Banane "ba-NAH-nuh"

③ -er at the end → "uh"

The r almost disappears: **der Lehrer** "LAY-ruh" · **der Vater** "FAH-tuh" · **aber** "AH-buh".

④ The German R

At the start of a word or after a consonant, the R is made at the **back** of the mouth — a soft gargle, gentler than you think. Practise: say "k", then relax it into a light rasp.

rot red · **das Brot** bread · **drei** three · **die Frau** woman

A rolled tongue-tip R (as in Bavaria and Austria) is also correct.

⑤ The tiny stop before a vowel

A word that starts with a vowel gets a small catch in the throat — like the break in *uh-oh*. It keeps words apart:

das Spiegelei (fried egg) is **Spiegel | ei** — "mirror-egg", not "Spie-gelei".
am | Abend — not "ammabend".

Where does the stress go?

The stress rule

In most German words, stress the **first syllable**. Two exceptions: **be-, ge-, ver-, er-** at the start are never stressed, and many words borrowed from other languages stress the end.

Fenster · Kinder	bezahlen · verstehen	Hotel · studieren
• ○ • ○	○ • ○ ○ • ○	○ • ○ • ○
German words: first syllable	be-, ge-, ver-, er-: skip them	borrowed words & -ieren verbs

✎ Bonus: an **h** after a vowel is silent — die Uhr is "oo-uh", gehen is "GAY-un".

Quick check Underline the stressed syllable.

a **Lampe** b **besuchen** to visit c **Garten**
d **telefonieren** e **gehören** to belong f **Musik**

Answers p. 16

Section 7 · Real life

Spelling on the phone: Wie schreibt man das?

On the phone, **B** and **P**, **D** and **T**, **M** and **N** sound almost the same. So Germans add a word for each letter: **"K wie Köln"** — *K as in Köln*. The official list uses German city names.

The spelling alphabet · DIN 5009 (2022)

A	Aachen	**Ä**	Umlaut Aachen	**B**	Berlin
C	Chemnitz	**D**	Düsseldorf	**E**	Essen
F	Frankfurt	**G**	Goslar	**H**	Hamburg
I	Ingelheim	**J**	Jena	**K**	Köln
L	Leipzig	**M**	München	**N**	Nürnberg
O	Offenbach	**Ö**	Umlaut Offenbach	**P**	Potsdam
Q	Quickborn	**R**	Rostock	**S**	Salzwedel
ß	Eszett	**T**	Tübingen	**U**	Unna
Ü	Umlaut Unna	**V**	Völklingen	**W**	Wuppertal
X	Xanten	**Y**	Ypsilon	**Z**	Zwickau

The formula

[letter] wie [word]

M wie München *M as in Munich*
Ü wie Umlaut Unna

Older names you will still hear — many people learned these at school: **A wie Anton, B wie Berta, C wie Cäsar, D wie Dora, E wie Emil, F wie Friedrich, G wie Gustav, H wie Heinrich …** Both are understood everywhere.

Saying an email address

@ = ät · **. = Punkt**
- = Bindestrich · **_ = Unterstrich**
alles klein all lower case · **groß** capital
mit zwei O with two Os · **zusammen** as one word

Dialogue · Calling the doctor's practice

Praxis	**Praxis Dr. Weber, guten Tag.**	*Dr Weber's practice, hello.*
Ravi	**Guten Tag. Mein Name ist Ravi Kapoor.**	*Hello. My name is Ravi Kapoor.*
Praxis	**Wie bitte? Können Sie Ihren Nachnamen buchstabieren?**	*Pardon? Could you spell your surname?*
Ravi	**Ja, gern. K wie Köln, A wie Aachen, P wie Potsdam, O wie Offenbach, O wie Offenbach, R wie Rostock.**	*Yes, of course. K as in Köln, A as in Aachen, P as in Potsdam, O as in Offenbach, O as in Offenbach, R as in Rostock.*
Praxis	**Also K-A-P-O-O-R. Mit zwei O?**	*So: K-A-P-O-O-R. With two Os?*
Ravi	**Genau.**	*Exactly.*
Praxis	**Danke, Herr Kapoor. Und Ihre E-Mail-Adresse?**	*Thank you, Mr Kapoor. And your email address?*
Ravi	**ravi Punkt kapoor ät example Punkt com. Alles klein.**	*ravi dot kapoor at example dot com. All lower case.*
Praxis	**Perfekt, vielen Dank!**	*Perfect, thank you very much!*

✎ **Also** is a false friend: it means "so / well", not "also". "Also" in English = auch.

Phrases that save you

Wie bitte? Pardon? · **Noch einmal, bitte.** Once more, please.
Langsamer, bitte. More slowly, please.
Wie schreibt man das? How do you spell that?

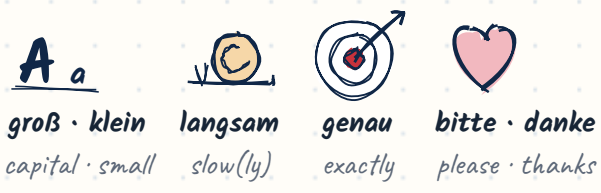
Wortschatz · Picture vocabulary

Words for talking about words

Look at the picture, say the word **with its article**, then cover the German and test yourself. der = blue · die = red · das = green



Little words – big help



groß · klein	langsam	genau	bitte · danke
capital · small	slow(ly)	exactly	please · thanks

-n, -e, ¨er under each word = how to make the plural. Chapter 4 explains it – for now, just notice.

Tip: nouns always start with a capital letter – easy to spot!

Tipps & Tricks · Merk dir das!

8 tricks to remember the sounds

Each picture is a hook for your memory. Look at it, say the example out loud — then close the book and draw the picture yourself.



1 ei sees an eye

ei = "eye", **ie** = "ee". Say the second letter in English.
drei · mein | **vier · Sie**



2 The great swap

When you **spell**: German **E** sounds like English "A", German **I** like English "E". Same for **G** ("gay") and **J** ("yot").

3 The ü recipe



Tongue says **ee**, lips say **oo**: die Tür, fünf.
Same trick with "ay" gives **ö**.



4 Doubles tell the length

Double vowel = long das Beet.
Double consonant = short das Bett.



5 a, o, u go deep

After **a, o, u, au** the **ch** drops into your throat: das Buch, acht.
Everywhere else it stays soft and high: ich, die Milch.

6 Vater & Wasser



F — der Vater — V says f



V — das Wasser — W says v



7 The last -e speaks

English swallows it, German says it: der Name = "NAH-muh", bitte = "BIT-uh".

8 Don't give a Gift!



das Gift = poison ≠ das Geschenk = present



A **false friend**: same letters as English, different meaning.



Memory test: cover the cards. Can you explain each trick in one sentence — and give one example word? Tick the ones you can: 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐

✎ *Pick the trick you keep forgetting and write it on a sticky note next to your mirror.*

Typische Fehler · Common mistakes

What you say — and what Germans hear

You say	A German hears	The fix
vier with an English v	**wir** — "we" instead of "four"	V = f: "feer". Keep the English v for W.
Tür without round lips	**das Tier** — "animal" instead of "door"	Say "ee", then round your lips (p. 5).
Stadt with a long a	**der Staat** — "state" instead of "city"	Double consonant (dt) → short, clipped vowel.
E spelled "ee"	the letter **I** — your name is written wrong	Spell with German names: E = ay, I = ee.
Name as "naym"	an unclear word	A final e is said: "NAH-muh".
Zug as "zoog"	a foreign-sounding word	Z = ts: "tsook" — and g at the end → k.
ich as "ick" or "ish"	a regional accent, not standard German	Whisper the h of *huge* with your tongue high.

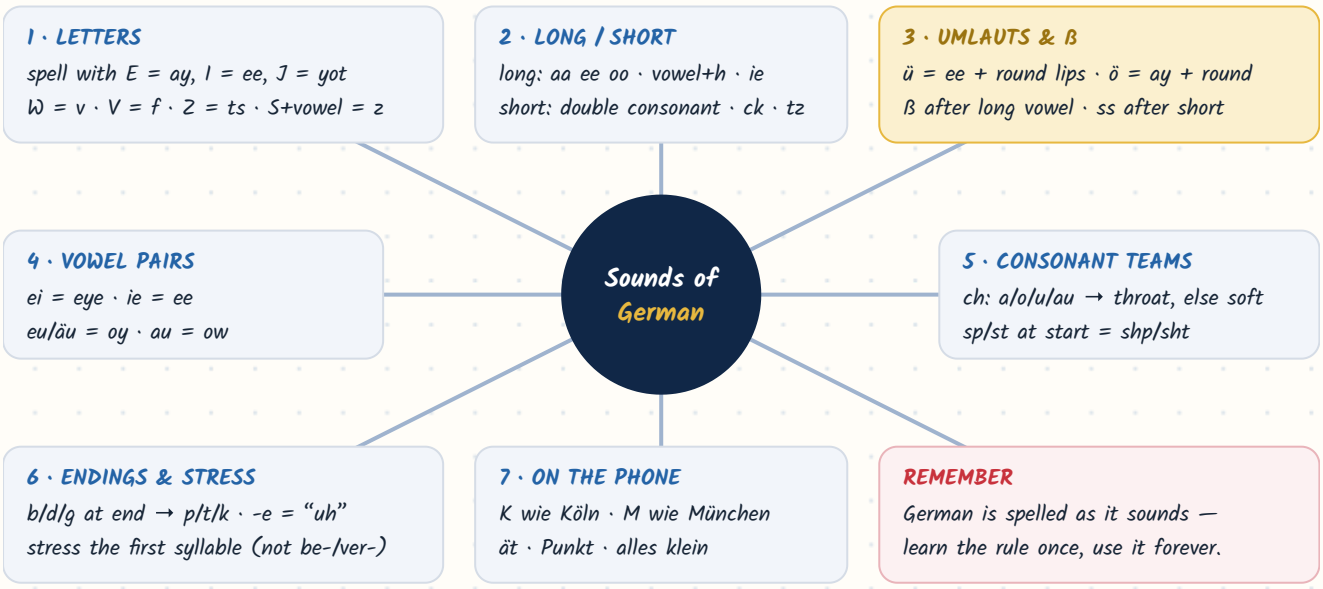
Im Alltag · Where you'll use this chapter

At the doctor's or the Bürgeramt
Spelling your name and address for an appointment or your registration (**die Anmeldung**).

On hotlines
Parcel services, your bank, your internet provider — all ask you to spell your customer name or email.

Reading signs aloud
der Ausgang exit · **der Eingang** entrance · **der Bahnhof** station. Stress the first syllable: **AUS**gang, **BAHN**hof.

Auf einen Blick · Chapter 1 at a glance



Arbeitsbuch · Workbook

Übungen 1–6 · Practise the sounds

Ü1 Say it like a German

6 points

Germans say these abbreviations letter by letter. Write how they sound, using the hints from page 2.

a VW (car) _____ b BMW _____ c ICE (train) _____

d WC (toilet) _____ e DHL _____ f USA _____

Ü2 Long or short?

10 points

Mark the vowel: draw a line (_) under a long vowel, a dot (·) under a short one. Then say the word.

a der Tee b das Bett c die Uhr d der Ball e der Saal

f die Butter g die Liebe h die Katze i das Boot j das Zimmer

Ü3 Throat or soft? Sort the ch words

10 points

Buch · ich · acht · Milch · Nacht · Mädchen · auch · Bücher · Koch · leicht

Throat ch [x] – after a, o, u, au	Soft ch [ç] – everywhere else

Ü4 ei or ie?

8 points

a dr____ three b v____r four c m____n my d L____be love

e Z____t time f S____ you (formal) g B____r beer h Fr____tag Friday

Ü5 Odd one out

5 points

In each row, one word has a **different sound** at the underlined spot. Cross it out and say why.

a Sport · Stadt · Fenster · Straße

b Vater · vier · Video · viel

c Hund · Bild · Kind · Hunde

d neu · Häuser · heute · Haus

e zehn · Zug · Katze · Sonne

Ü6 ß or ss?

6 points

Look at the vowel before the gap: long vowel or vowel pair → ß, short vowel → ss.

a drau____en outside b mü____en must c der Gru____ greeting

d das Ki____en pillow e flie____en to flow f der Pa____ passport

Arbeitsbuch · Reading, writing, translation

Übungen 7–10 · Use it

Ü7 Read: a message from Lena

5 points

Von: lena.weiss@example.com · An: Ravi
Hallo Ravi,
ich bin jetzt in Wien! Mein Deutschkurs beginnt am Freitag. Die Lehrerin heißt Frau Schäfer – mit Ä.
Meine neue E-Mail-Adresse ist lena.weiss@example.com. Weiss mit Doppel-S, nicht mit ß! Aber auf dem Formular steht „Weiß“ – mit ß. Typisch deutsch!
Bis bald und tschüss!
Lena

Help
jetzt now · **der Deutschkurs** German course · **beginnt** starts · **am Freitag** on Friday · **die Lehrerin** teacher (f) · **heißt** is called · **neu** new · **nicht** not · **aber** but · **auf dem Formular steht** the form says · **typisch** typical · **Bis bald!** See you soon!

1 Where is Lena now? Careful — don't mix it up with *der Wein*. _____

2 When does her course start? _____

3 Spell the teacher's surname letter by letter. _____

4 Why is “Weiss” written with **ss** in the email address? _____

5 Sound hunt: find three words with **ei** or **ie**. Are they “eye” or “ee”? _____

Ü8 Translate

8 points

a How do you spell that? _____

b Pardon? _____

c Once more, please. _____

d More slowly, please. _____

e My name is Anna Berg. _____

f Could you spell your surname? (formal) _____

g **Alles klein.** → _____

h **Mit zwei L.** → _____

Ü9 Spell it on the phone

4 points

Use the city alphabet (page 9). Example: **LEO** → **L wie Leipzig, E wie Essen, O wie Offenbach**.

a **MAIER**

b **JUNG**

c your first name and surname

Ü10 Say an email address

2 points

Write in words how you say this address on the phone: **anna-lena_berg@example.com**

T

Kapiteltest · Chapter test

Test yourself — 30 points

Score: ____ / 30

No looking back! Allow yourself 20 minutes. Then check your answers on page 16.

A Which letter is it?

6 points

A German spells a word on the phone. Write the letter you hear.

"yot" ___ "fow" ___ "vay" ___ "tset" ___ "ee" ___ "ay" ___

B Long (L) or short (S)?

6 points

das Haar hair ___ der Kamm comb ___ der Zahn tooth ___

der Rock skirt ___ das Lied song ___ die Mutter mother ___

C Choose the right sound

6 points

1 **W** in *Wasser* sounds like English … ☐ w ☐ v ☐ f

2 **z** in *Zug* sounds like … ☐ z ☐ ts ☐ s

3 **ei** in *mein* sounds like … ☐ ee ☐ ay ☐ eye

4 **ie** in *vier* sounds like … ☐ ee ☐ eye ☐ i-e

5 **d** in *Hund* sounds like … ☐ d ☐ t

6 **st** in *Straße* sounds like … ☐ st ☐ sht

D Two dots change the meaning

6 points

Write the English meaning.

schon _____ zahlen _____ die Mutter _____

schön _____ zählen _____ die Mütter _____

E Spelling on the phone

6 points

Complete with the official city word.

K wie _____ M wie _____ S wie _____

W wie _____ Ü wie _____ B wie _____

26–30 · Ausgezeichnet!
Excellent. You're ready for Chapter 2.

18–25 · Gut!
Good. Re-read the pages for the parts you missed, then go on.

0–17 · Noch einmal
Work through sections 2–6 again and redo Ü2–Ü6.

Revision · Can I do it?

I can …	Yes	Almost	Not yet	Page
spell my name with German letter names	☐	☐	☐	2–3
see from the spelling if a vowel is long or short	☐	☐	☐	4
say ä, ö, ü and choose between ß and ss	☐	☐	☐	5
read ei, ie, eu, au, ch, sch, sp and st correctly	☐	☐	☐	6–7
stress the right syllable and say final -e and -er	☐	☐	☐	8
spell a name and an email address on the phone	☐	☐	☐	9

Lösungen · Answer key

Answers for Chapter 1

Quick checks

p. 3 a v · b f · c ts · d z
p. 4 a L (ee) · b S (nn) · c L (o + h) · d S (nn) · e L (ie) · f S (tt)
p. 5 a Fuß · b Tasse · c weiß · d Schloss
p. 6 a ee · b eye · c ee · d eye · e ee · f eye
p. 7 a [x] (u) · b [ç] (ü) · c [x] (a) · d [ç] (i) · e [x] (o) · f [ç] (e)
p. 8 a Lampe · b besuchen · c Garten · d telefonieren · e gehören · f Musik

Ü1 Say it like a German

a fow-vay · b bay-emm-vay · c ee-tsay-ay · d vay-tsay · e day-hah-ell · f oo-ess-ah

Ü2 Long or short?

Long: a Tee · c Uhr · e Saal · g Liebe · i Boot
Short: b Bett · d Ball · f Butter · h Katze · j Zimmer

Ü3 ch

Throat [x]: Buch, acht, Nacht, auch, Koch
Soft [ç]: ich, Milch, Mädchen, Bücher, leicht

Ü4 ei or ie?

a drei · b vier · c mein · d Liebe · e Zeit · f Sie · g Bier · h Freitag

Ü5 Odd one out

a **Fenster** — st inside a word = normal "st"
b **Video** — foreign word, V = v
c **Hunde** — d is no longer at the end, so it stays d
d **Haus** — au = "ow", the others = "oy"
e **Sonne** — s = z sound; the others = ts

Ü6 ß or ss?

a draußen · b müssen · c Gruß · d Kissen · e fließen · f Pass

Ü7 Reading

1 In Vienna (Wien). · 2 On Friday. · 3 S-C-H-Ä-F-E-R. · 4 Email addresses use ss instead of ß (p. 5). · 5 For example: Wien (ee), Freitag (eye), heißt (eye), meine (eye), Weiss (eye), die (ee).

Ü8 Translate

a Wie schreibt man das? · b Wie bitte? · c Noch einmal, bitte. · d Langsamer, bitte. · e Mein Name ist Anna Berg. · f Können Sie Ihren Nachnamen buchstabieren? · g All lower case. · h With two Ls.

Ü9 Spell it

a M wie München, A wie Aachen, I wie Ingelheim, E wie Essen, R wie Rostock
b J wie Jena, U wie Unna, N wie Nürnberg, G wie Goslar
c your own answer — check each letter on page 9

Ü10 Email

anna Bindestrich lena Unterstrich berg ät example Punkt com — alles klein

Kapiteltest

A J · V · W · Z · I · E
B Haar L · Kamm S · Zahn L · Rock S · Lied L · Mutter S
C 1 v · 2 ts · 3 eye · 4 ee · 5 t · 6 sht
D schon already · schön beautiful · zahlen to pay · zählen to count · Mutter mother · Mütter mothers
E Köln · München · Salzwedel · Wuppertal · Umlaut Unna · Berlin

Before Chapter 2

Go back to page 1 and tick the boxes you can do now. Anything unticked? Re-read that section — it takes ten minutes and makes every later chapter easier.

KAPITEL 2

Hallo! Wer bist du? 2

Greetings & introductions – saying hello, who you are, where you come from and which languages you speak

Before we start

In Chapter 1 you learned to spell your name. Now you will learn to **say** it – and to say a little more about yourself.

Think about your first week in a new country. You meet a neighbour on the stairs, a colleague on your first day, the teacher in your language course. Everybody asks the same few questions: **Wie heißt du? Woher kommst du? Sprichst du Deutsch?** If you can understand and answer these, you can start a conversation anywhere.

Along the way you will meet the most important verb in German, **sein** (to be), and the system of **verb endings** that you will use in every chapter after this one.

One more thing: German has two words for "you". Choosing the right one is part of being polite, so we'll look at it carefully.

In this chapter you will learn to

- ☐ say hello and goodbye at any time of day – formally and informally
- ☐ use **ich, du, er, sie, es, wir, ihr, sie** and **Sie**
- ☐ choose between **du** and **Sie**
- ☐ use **sein**, **heißen** and the regular verb endings
- ☐ ask questions with **wie, wer, woher, wo, was** – and yes/no questions
- ☐ talk about countries, nationalities and languages
- ☐ introduce yourself and other people

Tick each box when you can do it – then come back at the end of the chapter and check again.

Your route through the chapter

1 **Greetings** p. 18
2 **Pronouns** p. 19
3 **sein** p. 20
4 **Endings** p. 21
5 **heißen** p. 22
6 **Questions** p. 23
7 **Countries** p. 24
8 **Introductions** p. 25

Then: dialogues p. 26 · picture vocabulary p. 27 · tricks p. 28 · summary p. 29 · workbook p. 30–32 · test p. 33 · answers p. 34