

The Magic of German Church Records



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German-English Genealogy Translations

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Book: Tips and Tricks of Deciphering German Handwriting

Premium Membership: <https://sktranslations.com/premium>

1. Where to Find Church Records

- a. FamilySearch: <https://www.familysearch.org>
- b. Ancestry: <https://www.ancestry.com/>
- c. Archion: <https://www.archion.de/en/>
- d. Matricula: <http://data.matricula-online.eu/en/>

2. Handwriting Help

- a. Fraktur (Typed Text) Key: <https://bit.ly/2RIHnPZ>
- b. Kurrentschrift = Handwritten Text
- c. Books:
 - i. Tips and Tricks of Deciphering German Handwriting, Katherine Schober
 - ii. Deciphering Handwriting in German Documents, Roger Minert
 - iii. If I Can You Can Decipher Germanic Records, Edna Bentz
 - iv. German-English Genealogical Dictionary, Ernest Thode
- d. See Words in Script: <https://www.deutsche-handschrift.de/adsschreiben.php#schriftfeld>

3. Information to Know

- a. Records: Chronological Order
- b. Dates: Day-Month-Year
- c. Ending “in”
- d. “Creative” Spellings
 - i. K/G
 - ii. B/P
 - iii. F/V
 - iv. D/T

4. Common Abbreviations

- a. Complete the Abbreviation: <https://abkuerzungen.de>
- b. Genealogy Abbreviations: <https://sktranslations.com/19-common-abbreviations-german-genealogy>

5. Baptismal Records

- a. Child's Name
- b. Location
- c. Dates of Birth and Baptism
- d. Parents' Names and Occupations
- e. Godparents/Sponsors

6. Town Tools

- a. Meyer's Gazetteer: <https://www.meyersgaz.org/>
- b. Google Search Engine: "Did You Mean...?"

7. Marriage Records

- a. Groom's Name, Occupation, Residence
- b. Groom's Parents
- c. Brides' Name, Occupation, Residence
- d. Bride's Parents
- e. Legitimacy
- f. Date and Place of Marriage
- g. Witnesses
- h. Legitimacy

8. Play Hangman.

- a. <https://www.wordmine.info/de/>

9. Check Your Last Names

- a. <http://geogen.stoepel.net/>
- b. Name + *Nachname* on Google

10. Death Records

- a. Name of Deceased
- b. Date/Hour of Death and of Burial
- c. Place of Birth of Deceased
- d. Age of Deceased
- e. Cause of Death

Key Church Record Vocabulary (Order: Baptism, Marriage, Death Vocabulary):

Name	Name, Namen, Nahme, Nahmen
Parish	Pfarre, Gemeinde
Local	hiesig
Baptism	Taufe
Birth	Geburt
Born	geboren
Baptized	getauft
Child	Kind
Son	Sohn
Daughter	Tochter
Mother	Mutter
Father	Vater
Parents	Eltern, Aeltern
Boy	Knabe, Junge
Girl	Mädchen
Stillborn	totgeboren, todtgeboren
Year, Month and Day	Jahr, Monat und Tag
(In the) Morning; Afternoon; Evening	früh; nachmittags; abends
Legitimate; Illegitimate	ehelich; unehelich
Profession/Occupation	Stand, Beruf, Gewerbe
Godparents/Sponsors	Paten, Pathen, Taufpaten, Taufpathen, Gevatter
Witnesses	Zeugen, Beistand, Beystand, Beistände
Pastor/Priest; Assistant Pastor	Pfarrer, Priester; Koop., Coop.
Marriage	Trauung, Ehe
Groom	Bräutigam
Bride	Braut
Married	verheiratet, verehelicht
Wife	Frau, Ehefrau, Gattin, Weib, Eheweib
Husband	Mann, Ehemann, Gatte
Location/Place of Residence	Ort, Wohnort, Ortschaft
Divorced	geschieden
Widower/Widow	Wittwer, Witwer; Wittwe, Witwe
Death	Tod
Die; Died	sterben; gestorben, starb
Burial/Funeral	Begräbnis, Beerdigung

Additional Genealogical Vocabulary Lists:

German Genealogical Word List:

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/German_Genealogical_Word_List

Latin Genealogical Word List:

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Latin_Genealogical_Word_List

a	<i>a A</i>	j	<i>j J</i>	s	<i>s S P</i>
b	<i>b B</i>	k	<i>k K</i>	t	<i>t T</i>
c	<i>c C</i>	l	<i>l L</i>	u	<i>u U</i>
d	<i>d D</i>	m	<i>m M</i>	v	<i>v V</i>
e	<i>e E</i>	n	<i>n N</i>	w	<i>w W</i>
f	<i>f F</i>	o	<i>o O</i>	x	<i>x X</i>
g	<i>g G</i>	p	<i>p P</i>	y	<i>y Y</i>
h	<i>h H</i>	q	<i>q Q</i>	z	<i>z Z</i>
i	<i>i I</i>	r	<i>r R</i>	tz	<i>tz</i>

ü Uu ö Ou ü Uu
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