

10 Best Websites For Learning German in 2023

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Learning a new language is always an exciting adventure, and German is no exception. Fortunately the internet is a real treasure trove of resources to help you on this journey.

To make things easier, we've compiled a list of the **best websites for learning German**. Whether you're a beginner or an advanced learner, you'll surely find something to suit your needs.

Free German Learning Websites

You know what they say: the best things in life are free. Well, that includes some pretty great German learning websites!

There are plenty of platforms out there that won't cost you a single penny, while still offering top-notch learning experiences. Some of our favorites include:



1. Duolingo

The app that turns language learning into a game, making it fun and addictive. Duolingo is a highly popular language learning app that has garnered a loyal following due to its fun, game-like approach to teaching German and other languages.

The platform breaks down language learning into bite-sized lessons, making it easy to squeeze study sessions into even the busiest of schedules. Duolingo covers various aspects of the German language, such as vocabulary, grammar, listening, and reading skills, while encouraging learners to practice daily through streaks and rewards.

The app's engaging interface, coupled with its adaptive learning system, ensures that you stay motivated and challenged at just the right level. Best of all, Duolingo is free to use, with a premium subscription available for those who want an ad-free experience and additional features.

Upsides:

- Fun, game-like approach to learning
- Adaptive learning system
- Free to use (with premium subscription available)

- May not provide in-depth explanations of grammar concepts
- Some learners may find the gaming aspect less appealing



LEARN GERMAN

2. Deutsche Welle (DW)

Deutsche Welle, Germany's international broadcaster, offers an extensive selection of free German language learning resources on its website. This site is chock-full of free resources, from beginner courses to news articles in easy German.

Catering to a diverse range of proficiency levels, Deutsche Welle provides a variety of multimedia content, including videos, audio clips, and interactive exercises to help you hone your German skills. One of the platform's standout features is its series of engaging and informative thematic courses, which cover topics like German culture, history, and current events.

By integrating real-world contexts and authentic materials into its language lessons, Deutsche Welle ensures that you not only improve your German language skills but also gain valuable insight into the country's rich culture and society. Additionally, the platform offers helpful tools like a pronunciation guide, grammar explanations, and vocabulary lists to support your learning journey.

Upsides:

- Wide range of multimedia content
- Thematic courses covering German culture, history, and current events
- Free and comprehensive resources

- Some content may feel dated
- Limited resources for practicing speaking skills



3. Goethe-Institut

The Goethe-Institut offers a wealth of cultural and language materials, including free German lessons and interactive exercises, as well as advanced courses. The Goethe Institut is a globally recognized institution dedicated to promoting German language and culture.

As part of their mission, they offer an impressive array of online resources for learners of all levels. Their website features a variety of structured courses, interactive exercises, and multimedia content, including videos, audio clips, and reading materials.

One of the highlights of the Goethe Institut's offerings is their "Deutsch für dich" (German for you) program, which provides a flexible, self-paced learning environment for users to practice and improve their language skills.

Additionally, the institute offers online live courses and webinars, which can be a great opportunity for learners who prefer a more structured and interactive learning experience. By leveraging the Goethe Institut's resources, you'll not only benefit from their expert knowledge but also gain access to a wealth of cultural insights and authentic learning materials.

Upsides:

- Globally recognized institution with expert knowledge
- Variety of structured courses and interactive exercises
- "Deutsch für dich" program for self-paced learning
- Offers online live courses and webinars
- Rich cultural insights and authentic learning materials
- Active forum where you can ask for assistance

- Live courses and webinars can be a bit pricey
- May not be as engaging as game-based learning platforms like Duolingo

LANGUAGES GERMAN









4. BBC German

BBC German is an excellent resource for learners who want to combine language study with an authentic look at German culture and current events. While the BBC has discontinued updates to its German language learning platform, the existing materials can still be a valuable resource, especially when it comes to "evergreen" topic such as grammar.

The site offers a variety of multimedia content, including audio and video clips, grammar explanations, vocabulary lists, and quizzes to test your knowledge. By diving into real-world topics and engaging with a wide range of content, you'll not only improve your German skills but also gain a deeper understanding of the country's culture and society.

Upsides:

- Offers a variety of multimedia content
- Covers German culture and current events
- Great for learners seeking real-world context

Downsides:

- No longer updated
- Limited resources for advanced learners

5. Deutsch Akademie



Deutsch Akademie is a comprehensive online platform that caters to learners of all levels, from absolute beginners to advanced German speakers. The website boasts more than 25,000 grammar and vocabulary exercises, as well as a detailed grammar reference section to help you understand the intricacies of the German

language.

Additionally, Deutsch Akademie offers live lessons with qualified teachers (premium feature) who can answer your questions and clarify any doubts you might have. They also have a free app, helpful grammar infographics and well-thought-out preparations for various German exams such as the Goethe-Zertifikat.

Upsides:

- Over 25,000 grammar and vocabulary exercises
- Interactive textbooks for different difficulty levels
- more competitive pricing than Goethe Institut

Downsides:

- No online forum to connect with other learners
- all explanations are in German, so you may need a translator/dictionary



6. German.net

German.net is a valuable online resource for German language learners seeking a wide range of free learning materials. The website offers a comprehensive collection of content, including grammar explanations, vocabulary lists, and exercises organized by level.

From beginner to advanced, German.net covers a variety of topics to help learners develop a strong foundation in the language.

Another helpful feature of German.net is its selection of interactive quizzes and tests, which allow you to assess your progress and identify areas for improvement. With its well-structured content, German.net is an excellent resource for learners who want to strengthen their German language skills at their own pace.

Upsides:

- Comprehensive collection of learning materials
- all explanations are available in English!
- Interactive quizzes and tests

Downsides:

- Lacks a community aspect or opportunities for interaction with other learners
- Limited video and audio content for visual learners
- Interface could be more modern and visually appealing

Paid German Learning Websites

While free resources are fantastic, they may not cover everything you need. Some might lack in-depth explanations, or have limited content for advanced learners. But hey, who can complain when it's free, right? As we say in German: "Einem geschenkten Gaul schaut man nichts ins Mau!" (Don't look a gift horse in the mouth.)

If you're willing to invest a bit of money into your German language journey, there's a smorgasbord of fantastic paid websites to choose from. Here are some popular favorites:



7. Babbel

For those willing to invest in their language learning, Babbel offers a paid option with a focus on practical, real-life conversations. Known for its practical and efficient approach to teaching German and other languages, the platform offers professionally designed courses that focus on teaching conversational skills and useful phrases for everyday situations.

Babbel's lessons are structured and comprehensive, covering grammar, vocabulary, reading, listening, and speaking skills. The app also incorporates speech recognition technology to help you practice pronunciation and improve your spoken German.

Upsides:

- Live, interactive classes with qualified teachers
- Personalized learning experiences
- Small group classes and private lessons available

Downsides:

- Requires a subscription or payment for classes
- May not be suitable for learners who prefer self-paced study
- Limited free resources compared to other platforms



8. FluentU

FluentU is a unique language learning platform that uses real-world videos, such as movie clips, music videos, and news broadcasts, to teach German and other languages. The platform offers an immersive and entertaining learning experience by providing learners with authentic content and interactive subtitles.

FluentU's video library is organized by level and topic, making it easy to find content that suits your interests and proficiency. The platform also includes quizzes, flashcards, and personalized learning recommendations to help reinforce your knowledge and track your progress.

Upsides:

- Real-world videos for an immersive learning experience
- Interactive subtitles to aid understanding
- Personalized learning recommendations and progress tracking

- Requires a subscription for full access to the platform
- Focus on video content may not appeal to all learners
- May not provide as much structured guidance as other platforms



9. Lingoda

Lingoda is an online language school that offers live, interactive German classes with qualified teachers. This platform emphasizes personalized learning experiences and provides small group classes as well as private lessons. Students can choose from a variety of learning plans based on their individual goals, preferences, and schedules. Lingoda covers all aspects of the German language, including grammar, vocabulary, listening, reading, and speaking skills.

Upsides:

- Live, interactive classes with qualified teachers
- Personalized learning experiences
- Small group classes and private lessons available

Downsides:

- Requires a subscription or payment for classes
- May not be suitable for learners who prefer self-paced study
- Limited free resources compared to other platforms



10. iTalki

iTalki is an online language learning platform that connects learners with native-speaking language tutors for one-on-one lessons. The platform offers a diverse range of tutors, allowing you to choose based on teaching style, experience, and price. This personalized approach enables you to tailor your learning experience to your individual goals and preferences.

Additionally, the platform has a an active community, where you can ask questions, share resources, and engage in discussions with fellow learners.

Upsides:

- Connects learners with native-speaking tutors for personalized lessons
- Wide range of tutors to choose from
- Language exchange feature for free practice with native speakers
- Community aspect for additional support and engagement

Downsides:

- Requires payment for lessons with tutors
- No structured courses or lesson plans for German learners
- May not be suitable for learners who prefer self-paced study or group classes

When choosing a paid platform, consider your budget, learning style, and goals. Remember, it's not about finding the most expensive option—it's about finding the one that fits you like a glove (or a well-tailored pair of Lederhosen).

Choosing a German Learning Website According to Your Level

Not all German learners are created equal. Some are just starting their journey, while others are ready to tackle the language like a linguistic Ironman. To ensure you pick the best website for your level, consider the following:

- 1. Beginner German lessons Look for websites that cover the basics, like the alphabet, pronunciation, and essential vocabulary. Duolingo is a fun way to get started.
- 2. Intermediate German lessons At this stage, you'll want more in-depth grammar explanations and a wider variety of content. German.net's English explanations are super helpful.
- 3. Advanced German lessons Seek out resources that challenge your skills, like authentic news articles or podcasts. Deutsche Welle is a great option, especially for multimedia content.

Remember to assess your current level honestly and set achievable goals. Rome wasn't built in a day, and neither is German fluency.

Learning German Online Without a Tutor

Do you have an independent streak? Fancy yourself a linguistic Lone Ranger?

Good news—you can absolutely learn German online without a tutor! Here's how:

- 1. Use self-guided study methods, like apps, textbooks, or online courses. Create a study schedule and stick to it.
- 2. Engage in language exchange with native speakers through platforms like Tandem or HelloTalk. Who needs a tutor when you can chat with real Germans?
- 3. Immerse yourself in German TV series or read simple German short stories for beginners.

You'll be surprised at how much you can learn from simply surrounding your-self with the language.

While going solo has its perks, like flexibility and self-pacing, it can also be a challenge. Staying motivated and disciplined is key. To keep yourself accountable, try setting specific goals and celebrating your progress. Remember, learning a language is a marathon, not a sprint.

Additional German Language Learning Resources

To become a true *Deutschmeister*, you'll need to explore various aspects of the language. Here are some additional resources to help you along the way:

- 1. Grammar exercises In addition to the websites we discussed above you can also find tons of free high-quality German worksheets across the web.
- 2. Vocabulary exercises Memrise and Quizlet provide fun and effective ways to expand your German vocabulary.
- 3. Pronunciation practice Forvo and many German-English dictionaries include audio clips to help you perfect your pronunciation.
- 4. Spaced Repetition: Use advanced flashcard apps like ANKI for even more efficient memorization

Conclusion

There you have it—a comprehensive guide to the best websites for learning German. As you embark on your linguistic adventure, remember that the most important thing is to find a platform that speaks to you (pun intended).

With the right resources, a bit of humor, and a hearty dose of dedication, you'll soon be impressing your friends with your Deutsch prowess.