

What's the best way to start learning German?

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DATE	COURSES	TIME	BATCH TYPE	TRAINER
15th April	German A1 & A2	10:00 AM to 1:00 PM	Hybrid (Weekend)	Swati Ghate
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German Language Classes in Pune

Beginning to study German can seem like a daunting endeavor, but dividing it into achievable steps makes it much more accessible. Here's a great approach to begin:

1. Familiarize yourself with the Fundamentals

Learn the Alphabet & Pronunciation: German pronunciation is difficult due to some letters and sounds that do not exist in English. Practice learning the alphabet and sounds first. YouTube videos or language apps usually have tutorials for this.

Common Phrases & Greetings: Begin with learning simple phrases such as "Hallo," "Wie geht's?" (How are you?), and "Danke" (Thank you). These are necessary for daily conversations.

2. Choose a Language Learning App

Duolingo, Babbel, or Memrise are some apps that can get you started. These apps are engaging and present vocabulary and grammar in a gradual manner, perfect for beginners.

If you prefer something more formal, Lingoda provides live online classes with native speakers.

3. Practice Grammar Fundamentals

German grammar can appear daunting, but it's best to begin with the easy stuff, such as word order, gender (der, die, das), and foundational verb conjugations. Once you begin to understand these, patterns will emerge that make more advanced grammar less difficult.

Experiment with materials like GermanPod101 or Lingvist, which simplify grammar rules in a clear, comprehensible manner.

4. Build Vocabulary

Begin with common nouns (house, car, book) and adjectives (big, small, good) first. Flashcards (with something like Anki) can be a big help.

Learn phrases instead of individual words. In German, as in any language, phrases are the key to sounding natural.

5. Immerse Yourself

Listen to music in German, watch German shows or films with subtitles (programs like *Dark* or *How to Sell Drugs Online (Fast)* on Netflix), or subscribe to German YouTube channels.

The more you listen to the language in use, the sharper your ear becomes for it, and it exposes you to catching slang and regular expressions.

6. Practice Speaking

This is one of the most difficult things for most beginners, but it's crucial! Even if you're just speaking to yourself initially, practice reading words and sentences aloud.

Tandem or HelloTalk are perfect for speaking with native speakers. You can also find a language exchange partner—someone who knows German and wants to learn English.

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7. Consistency Over Intensity

Try to practice a little every day, even if it's just 15-20 minutes. Daily exposure and practice is key to retention and progress.

Set small, achievable goals. For example, learning 10 new words each week or mastering a certain grammar rule.

8. Join Online Communities

There are tons of communities like the r/German subreddit or language learning Discord servers. These can provide both support and motivation when you're feeling stuck.

9. Use a Notebook or Journal

Write simple sentences or diary entries in German. This is a fun way to practice grammar and vocabulary in context. Plus, it helps reinforce what you've learned.

10. Stay Patient and Have Fun!

Language learning can be frustrating at times, but it's also really rewarding. Celebrate small victories along the way (even just successfully ordering a coffee in German is a win!).

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