



## Working with German Vital Records You Find on MyHeritage

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### 1. Finding Vital Records on MyHeritage

- a. Vital Records Began in 1876 (for the German Empire in general)
  - i. Alsace-Lorraine: 1792
  - ii. Rheinland (west of the Rhine): 1798
  - iii. Hessen, province of Rheinhessen: 1798
  - iv. Grand Duchy of Berg: 1806-1815
  - v. Kingdom of Westphalia: 1807-1815
  - vi. Hamburg: 1811-1815
  - vii. Hannover (parts): 1811-1815
  - viii. Hessen-Kassel: - 1811-1815
  - ix. Lübeck: 1811-1815
  - x. Oldenburg: 1811-1815

([https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Germany\\_Civil\\_Registration](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Germany_Civil_Registration))
- b. MyHeritage Collections Available
  - i. Germany, Births and Baptisms 1558-1898
  - ii. Germany, Marriages, 1558-1929
  - iii. Germany, Deaths and Burials, 1582-1958
- c. List of German Registry Offices: <https://www.standesamt.com/>
- d. Family Search Wiki: [https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Germany\\_Civil\\_Registration](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Germany_Civil_Registration)

### 2. Handwriting Help

- a. *Fraktur* (Typed Text) Key: <http://bit.ly/frakturkey>
- b. *Kurrentschrift* (Handwritten Text): see key at end of syllabus
- c. See Words in Script: <https://www.deutsche-handschrift.de/adsschreiben.php#schriftfeld>

### 3. Birth Records

- a. Town and Date
- b. Declarant's Name and Occupation
- c. Mother's Name, Maiden Name, Religion
- d. Husband's Name, Occupation, Religion
- e. Place of Residence
- f. Time and Place of Birth

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- g. Name and Gender of Child
- h. Signatures

## 4. Play Hangman

- a. Word Mine: <https://www.wordmine.info/>

## 5. Last Name Tool

- a. Last Name Frequency: <http://geogen.stoepel.net/>
- b. Google “Transcription Guess + *Nachname*”

## 6. Marriage Records

- a. Town and Date
- b. Groom’s Occupation, Religion, Date and Place of Birth, Residence
- c. Groom’s Parents’ Names, Residence, Living or Deceased
- d. Bride’s Occupation, Religion, Date and Place of Birth, Residence
- e. Bride’s Parents’ Names, Residence, Living or Deceased
- f. Witness’ Names, Occupations, Ages, Residence
- g. Signatures

## 7. Occupations

- a. <https://germanologyunlocked.com/living-ancestor-common-occupations-german-genealogy/>
- b. *If I Can You Can Decipher German Records* by Edna Bentz
- c. Google “Transcription Guess + *Occupation/Beruf*”

## 8. Town Tools

- a. Meyer’s Gazetteer: <https://www.meyersgaz.org/>
- b. Google “Transcription Guess + Location Information”

## 9. Death Records

- a. Town and Date
- b. Declarant’s Name, Occupation, Residence
- c. Deceased Person’s Name, Age, Religion, Residence, Place of Birth, Relationships
- d. Place and Time of Death
- e. Signatures

## 10. Dictionaries

- a. Leo: <https://dict.leo.org/englisch-deutsch/>

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- b. DeepL: <https://www.deepl.com/translator>
- c. Linguee: <https://www.linguee.com/>

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## Key Vital Record Vocabulary:

Registrar	<b>Standesbeamte</b>
Undersigned	<b>unterzeichnet</b>
Midwife	<b>Hebamme</b>
Residing	<b>wohnhaft</b>
Street	<b>Straße</b>
Small Street	<b>Gasse</b>
District	<b>Kreis</b>
Stated	<b>zeigte an</b>
Née	<b>geboren</b>
Catholic	<b>katholisch</b>
Protestant	<b>evangelisch</b>
Jewish	<b>mosaisch/jüdisch</b>
Wife	<b>Ehefrau</b>
Husband	<b>Ehemann</b>
Born	<b>geboren</b>
Boy	<b>Knabe, Junge</b>
Girl	<b>Mädchen</b>
Gender	<b>Geschlecht</b>
Female	<b>weiblich</b>
Male	<b>männlich</b>
First Name	<b>Vorname</b>
Daughter	<b>Tochter</b>
Son	<b>Sohn</b>
Year	<b>Jahr</b>
Month	<b>Monat</b>
Day	<b>Tag</b>
Still Living	<b>noch lebend</b>
With Her Husband	<b>bei ihrem Ehemann</b>
Marriage	<b>Eheschließung</b>
Of The	<b>des</b>
Morning	<b>Vormittags</b>
Noon	<b>Mittags</b>
Afternoon	<b>Nachmittags</b>

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Evening	<b>Abends</b>
Deceased	<b>verstorben</b>

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Kurrentschrift

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>

*ä Au ö Ou ü Uu*  
*ff ll ff pf ff ff*