

# German Genealogy

Introduction – Alan Rabe and Minden, Germany

Overview of German Immigration to US-top ethnic group, 14.7% identify ancestry as German

Find the German city using US records – primarily local US church records

German unification in 1871

Meyers Orts-und Verkehrs-Lexikon 1905 [meyersgaz.org](http://meyersgaz.org) or download PDF from FamilySearch

German Lutheran Church Records [www.Archion.de](http://www.Archion.de) Catholic <https://data.matricula-online.eu/en/>

Access to **Civil** Registration

- births are available after 110 years,
- marriages after 80 years
- deaths after 30 years

Many records available in databases, search using catalog

Specialty Books – example Emigration from Minden

Naming patterns-given names are from baptism witnesses

Handwriting history

- German English Genealogical Dictionary by Ernest Thode
- Deciphering Handwriting in German Documents by Roger P Minert
- If I can, you can Decipher Germanic Records by Edna M Bentz
- Tips and Tricks of Deciphering German Handwriting by Katherine Schober
- The Magic of German Church Records by Katherine Schober
- FamilySearch has many courses on German including:
  - German Paleography – 10 lessons
  - Old German Script - 3 parts

Translation Aids – word list, English flag, Google translate

Facebook group: German Genealogy Records Transcription

Sktranslations.com Katherine Schober tips

- WordMine.info – also useful for crossword puzzles
- en.Langenschedift.com – the big name in German/English dictionaries
- Woerterbuchnetz.de – words in old dictionaries
- Geogen.stoepel.net – name locations
- <http://www.deutsche-handschrift.de/adsschreiben.php#schrifftfeld> - Which is a Script generator

Detailed maps on Ancestry and in MeyersGaz.org

## Must Know History

- 1517 Reformation began
- 1563 Catholic Council of Trent - required priests to record all members
- 1618 Thirty Years' War

## Other resources

[http://wiki-en.genealogy.net/Main\\_Page](http://wiki-en.genealogy.net/Main_Page)

<https://www.germangenealogygroup.com/>

<https://www.genealogylinks.net/europe/germany/>

<http://sites.rootsweb.com/~wggerman/>

- Deutsches Geschlechterbuch and Genealogisches Handbuch des Adels
- Germans to America
- Google family web pages, books
- 16 classes on German genealogy on FamilySearch
- Wiki.FamilySearch.org - search on Germany and Identifying Place Names
- [https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/German\\_Research\\_on\\_the\\_Internet\\_-\\_an\\_Overview\\_-\\_complete\\_handout](https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/German_Research_on_the_Internet_-_an_Overview_-_complete_handout)
- A Genealogical Handbook of German Research by Larry Jensen (in the Round Rock library)
- The Family Tree German Genealogy Guide: How to Trace Your Germanic Ancestry in Europe (also in Round Rock Library)
- Trace Your German Roots Online: A Complete Guide to German Genealogy Websites
- FamilySearch Wiki
  - Identifying Place Names in German documents
  - Germany Church Records

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