

GERMAN PRINT

The following reading selections are printed in a type which was originally not German but internationally northern European. In English it is known as black letter, Gothic, or Old English, and is still in limited use for the titles of newspapers and other ornamental scripts. In German it was used until recently for books and newspapers, along with the modern international roman type. To read German books published up to World War II it is necessary to have practice in reading "German" type.

"German" Letters	German Names	Roman Letters	"German" Letters	German Names	Roman Letters
Ɱ	a ah	A a	Ɱ	u enn	N n
ⱪ	b ba(y)*	B b	Ⱬ	o oh*	O o
ⱬ	c tsa(y)*	C c	ⱬ	p pa(y)*	P p
Ɱ	d da(y)*	D d	Ɐ	q koo	Q q
Ɒ	e a(y)*	E e	ⱱ	r err ¹	R r
Ⱳ	f eff	F f	ⱳ	ſ s̄ ² ess	S s
ⱴ	g ga(y)*	G g	Ⱶ	t ta(y)*	T t
ⱶ	h hah	H h	ⱷ	u oo	U u
ⱸ	i ee	I i	ⱹ	v fow ³	V v
ⱺ	j yawt	J j	ⱻ	w va(y)*	W w
ⱼ	k kah	K k	ⱽ	x iks	X x
Ȿ	l ell	L l	Ɀ	y ipsilon	Y y
Ɀ	m emm	M m	Ɀ	z tset	Z z

COMBINED LETTERS

Ɀ	tsa(y)-hah'	ch	Ɀ	ess-tset'	ß
Ɀ	tsa(y)-kah'	ck	Ɀ	ess-ta(y)	st
			Ɀ	ta(y)-tset'	tz

MODIFIED VOWELS

Ɀ	ä ah-umlaut	Ä ä	Ɀ	ü oo-umlaut	Ü ü
Ɀ	ö oh-umlaut	Ö ö	Ɀ	äu ow-umlaut	Äu äu

* There is no off-glide to i or u.

¹ As in *errand*. ² Long ſ is used at the beginning, round s ("ⱳluſ-s") at the end of a syllable. ³ As in *fowl*. ⁴ Ɀ, originally a combination of long ſ and short s̄, is equivalent to ſſ; ſſ is used before vowels after short vowels, otherwise ſ̄. In Latin script write ſ̄ as ß or ss (not sz).

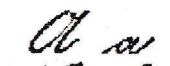
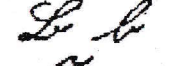
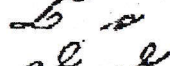

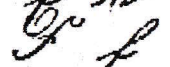




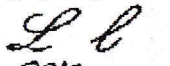
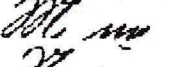
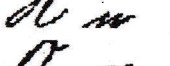
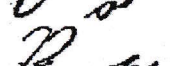

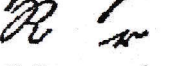




Few of the letters present difficulties. Notice the shape of ⱳ ⱳ and study the differences between Ɱ A — Ɱ U; ⱪ B — ⱪ V; ⱬ C — ⱬ E — ⱬ G; ⱱ K — ⱱ R; f k — tt; r r — r x; m m — m w; and particularly ſ s — ſ f.

Read:


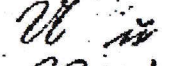

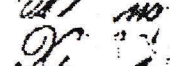
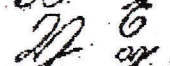
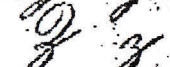

Sage; Arzt, Uhr, Antwort, Unfinn; Bad, Vater, Bahn, Volk; Chor, Ehre, Gegner, Chemie, Ede, Gras; Kaiser, Reise; kaufen, taufen baptize, kosten, töten; Herr, Hege, Art sort, Art ax; mehr, wer, mir, mir; sein, sein, Lust joy, Luft




Introduction

The German alphabet consists of twenty-six letters, the forms and names of which are as follows:

A	Ä	a	a		ah
B	B	b	b		bay
C	C	c	c		tsay
D	D	d	d		day
E	E	e	e		ay
F	F	f	f		eff
G	G	g	g		gay
H	H	h	h		hah
I	I	i	i		es
J	J	j	j		yot
K	K	k	k		kah
L	L	l	l		ell
M	M	m	m		emm
N	N	n	n		enn
O	O	o	o		oh
P	P	p	p		pay
Q	Q	q	q		koo
R	R	r	r		air
S	S	s	s		ess

Introduction

T	T	t	t		lay
U	U	u	u		oo
V	V	v	v		fow
W	W	w	w		vay
X	X	x	x		tsa
Y	Y	y	y		ipailon
Z	Z	z	z		tsel

ch		ch	ff	ss	ph	yz
sch		sch	B	ss	ph	ph
st		st	H	st		

Ä ä Ö ö Ü ü

In German the names of the letters of the alphabet, more especially of the vowels, correspond much more closely to the sounds which they represent than do their English equivalents. The student should therefore learn the German names of the letters and always refer to them by the German names, never by the English.

Certain of the German letters are often confused by the beginner. Distinguish very carefully between Ä and U; B, V, and P; C, G, and G; R, W, and R; c and e; f and f; n and u; r and r.

The capitals of i and j may have the same form, namely I. If a vowel follows the I, it is sounded as i; if a consonant follows, as i; das Jahr, der Januar, but Ibr, das Interesse.¹

¹ The official German spelling book (Der große Duden) makes a slight distinction between capital i and j, printing capital i on a level with the line, J, as compared with J, the lower loop of which is below the line.