

A free workbook for your first conversations

A little German.
A useful beginning.

Hallo,
Alltag.

A first hello. A coffee, please. And a way to ask again.

Ten pages of short dialogues, English guidance and small exercises to make the words your own.

9 September 2026

How to use this workbook

Make a little room for practice.

This workbook is for adults taking their first steps in German. You do not need a textbook, an account or a payment card. A PDF reader is enough; printing is optional.

Read one exchange.

Read the German and the English meaning. The dialogues are original learning examples, not recordings of real conversations.

Change one detail.

Use your own name, a drink you like or a useful word. Say the new phrase aloud if you can. There is no audio included.

Cover, try, check.

Cover the German, try to write it from the meaning, then look back. Use page 9 to check the closed exercises. Your personal answers can vary.

What this is not

This is a small written introduction, not a complete A1 course, a placement test or a certificate. Individual corrections and audio recordings are not included.

Dialogue 1 - an informal introduction

The first hello.

A

Hallo! Ich heiße Alex. Und du?

Hello! My name is Alex. And you?

B

Ich heiße Sam. Freut mich!

My name is Sam. Nice to meet you!

A

Freut mich auch. Wo wohnst du?

Nice to meet you too. Where do you live?

B

Ich wohne in Berlin. Und du?

I live in Berlin. And you?

Notice the pattern

Ich heiße ... introduces your name. Ich wohne in ... tells someone where you live. Du is informal. Use it with someone you are on informal terms with, not automatically with every stranger.

Practice 1 - names and places

Now make it yours.

A. Choose the form that completes each sentence. Use the dialogue on page 3 to help, then check page 9.

1. Ich _____ Alex. (heiße / heißt)

2. Wo _____ du? (wohne / wohnst)

3. Ich wohne _____ Berlin. (in / und)

B. Write your own introduction.

Hallo! Ich heiße ... Ich wohne in ...

C. Keep the exchange going.

You have said your name. Write one question you can ask the other person. Then practise both roles aloud.

Dialogue 2 - at a café

A coffee, please.

Staff

Guten Tag! Was möchten Sie?

Hello! What would you like?

Guest

Einen Kaffee, bitte.

A coffee, please.

Staff

Mit Milch?

With milk?

Guest

Ja, bitte. Vielen Dank!

Yes, please. Thank you very much!

A small grammar note

Kaffee is masculine: der Kaffee. In this short request, the accusative form is einen Kaffee. For a different noun, the article may change. Do not use einen with every drink or food.

Sie is a formal form of address. It is written with a capital S. Bitte can mean "please"; in other contexts it can also mean "you are welcome".

Practice 2 - a polite request

Your café note.

A. Complete the short exchange with words from the box. Each word is used once.

Word box: Einen / bitte / Dank

1. _____ Kaffee, bitte.

2. Ja, _____.

3. Vielen _____!

B. Match the phrase to the meaning.

a. Mit Milch? 1. Thank you very much!

b. Vielen Dank! 2. With milk?

C. Try a useful variation.

Write a short exchange using a drink you might order. Two patterns: Einen Tee, bitte. / Ein Wasser, bitte. Notice that the article changes with the noun.

Dialogue 3 - repetition and meaning

It is okay to ask again.

A

Könnten Sie das bitte wiederholen?

Could you repeat that, please?

B

Natürlich. Ich habe morgen einen Termin.

Of course. I have an appointment tomorrow.

A

Was bedeutet "Termin"?

What does "Termin" mean?

B

Ein Termin ist eine vereinbarte Zeit, zum Beispiel beim Arzt.

An appointment is an agreed time, for example at the doctor's.

Another useful request

Könnten Sie bitte etwas langsamer sprechen?

Could you speak a little more slowly, please? This is a formal, polite request. Practise the whole phrase so it is easier to find when you need it.

Practice 3 - your personal notebook

A phrase worth keeping.

A. Match each request with what you need.

1. Könnten Sie das bitte wiederholen?
2. Könnten Sie bitte etwas langsamer sprechen?
3. Was bedeutet dieses Wort?

a. Explain a word. b. Repeat it. c. Speak more slowly.

B. Keep one phrase in context.

Choose one phrase from this workbook. Write its German form, its English meaning and a situation where you could use it.

German:

Meaning:

My situation:

Answer key

Check, then try again.

Page 4 - introductions

A: 1. heiße 2. wohnst 3. in. B: Personal answers vary. Example: Hallo! Ich heiße Alex. Ich wohne in Berlin. C: One possible question is Wo wohnst du?

Page 6 - the café

A: 1. Einen 2. bitte 3. Dank. B: a-2, b-1. C: Personal answers vary. Example: Guten Tag! Einen Tee, bitte. - Mit Milch? - Nein, danke.

Page 8 - asking again

A: 1-b, 2-c, 3-a. B: Personal answers vary. Check the phrase against the original dialogue and make sure the meaning matches the situation.

Why these forms?

Ich takes heiße, while du takes wohnst in the examples. German nouns have grammatical gender: der Kaffee and der Tee are masculine, das Wasser is neuter. The café requests use accusative forms: einen Kaffee, einen Tee, ein Wasser.

With the modal verb könnten, the infinitive goes at the end: Könnten Sie das bitte wiederholen? You do not need to master every term to start practising the complete phrase.

A small next step

Take one phrase into your day.

Choose something useful enough to revisit. A little plan can be more practical than a long list of good intentions.

The phrase I want to remember:

A situation where I could use it:

When I will practise it again:

About this edition

Original learning material from Bohdan Deutsch. Version 1.1, 9 September 2026. English guidance, German practice and an answer key for your first everyday conversations.

Keep the phrases you find useful, return to them in a few days and try changing one more detail.

Personal learning use only. You may download and print your own copy. Do not resell or publicly redistribute the PDF. Share the product-page link instead.

Reference checks: Duden, Kaffee (duden.de/rechtschreibung/Kaffee); IDS grammis, Stellungsfelder und Satzklammer (grammis.ids-mannheim.de/systematische-grammatik/1241).