


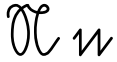


Four versions of German Kurrent handwriting - Page 1 of 4

Time period	A a	B b	C c	D d	E e	F f	G g	H h
20th century (early)								
19th century								
18th century								
18th century (early)								
	A a	B b	C c	D d	E e	F f	G g	H h

Notes

1. The most unfamiliar letters in this group are probably the "e", resembling an "n", and the "h"
2. Because of the internal separation, "a" often resembles "oi" and "g" resembles "oj"
3. Note that both the capital "B" and "C" resemble "L"
4. Earlier forms of "A" and "H" can be hard to recognize
5. Some letters such as "d" and "s" have different forms if they appear at the end of a word. See page 4
6. The fonts used here are in order: Volk Redis, GL-Suetterlin, 18th Century Kurrent Text, and 18th Century Kurrent Start. They are available for download in accordance with their licensing agreements

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I i	J j	K k	L l	M m	N n	O o	P p	Q q
								
								
								
								
I i	J j	K k	L l	M m	N n	O o	P p	Q q

Notes

1. Note that capital "K" resembles "R". Earlier versions of "P" resemble "F" or "T"
2. Lower case "p" resembles "g" or "y"
3. The first row is a style called Sütterlin, which was developed for public schools in the early 20th century. Sometimes the earlier styles are referred to as Sütterlin as well, but Kurrent is the more accurate term.
4. The 18th Century Kurrent script is shown in bold form because it most closely represents the actual handwriting seen in the church records of Hatten and Buhl, Alsace.

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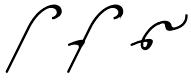



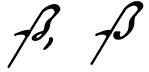







R r	S t	T t	U u	V v	W w	X x	Y y	Z z
								
								
								
								
R r	S t	T t	U u	V v	W w	X x	Y y	Z z

Notes

1. The most difficult of the frequent letters in this group are probably the "r", "s", and "t". In actual examples the "r" often resembles an "x" or a tiny star. The "s" resembles an "f" or a shepherd's hook. The "t" may look similar to a lower case L.
2. Note that capital "S" is a single loop.
3. Lower case "u" is distinguished from "n" by the mark above. This can also sometimes be confused with an umlaut over the u (ü).
4. Both upper and lower case "v" and "w" can be confusing. If you see something unfamiliar, think "v" and "w".

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Variant and combination forms of the 18th century

d	ff	s	sch	sp	ss	ß
						
						

Notes

1. The second form of "d" is typically seen at the end of a word.
2. The three forms of "s" are typically seen at the beginning, middle, and end of a word.
3. Note the similarity of "ff", "sp" and "ss"
4. The "sch" in actual examples often resembles an English cursive capital "G"
5. The ß is a character still in use in modern German; it is approximately equivalent to "ss". For instance, the German spelling of "Alsace" is "Elsaß" or "Elsass".