

German writing systems: Antiqua, Fraktur and Kurrent

Aa	Aa	<i>Aa</i>	Nn	Nn	<i>Nn</i>
Bb	Bb	<i>Bb</i>	Oo	Oo	<i>Oo</i>
Cc	Cc	<i>Cc</i>	Pp	Pp	<i>Pp</i>
Dd	Dd	<i>Dd</i>	Qq	Qq	<i>Qq</i>
Ee	Ee	<i>Ee</i>	Rr	Rr	<i>Rr</i>
Ff	Ff	<i>Ff</i>	Ss	Ss	<i>Ss</i>
Gg	Gg	<i>Gg</i>	Tt	Tt	<i>Tt</i>
Hh	Hh	<i>Hh</i>	Uu	Uu	<i>Uu</i>
Ii	Ii	<i>Ii</i>	Vv	Vv	<i>Vv</i>
Jj	Jj	<i>Jj</i>	Ww	Ww	<i>Ww</i>
Kk	Kk	<i>Kk</i>	Xx	Xx	<i>Xx</i>
Ll	Ll	<i>Ll</i>	Yy	Yy	<i>Yy</i>
Mm	Mm	<i>Mm</i>	Zz	Zz	<i>Zz</i>

ä **ä** *ä* ü **ü** *ü*

ö **ö** *ö*

ch **ch** *ch* ß **ß** *ß*

ck **ck** *ck* tz **tz** *tz*

Note: In older German texts, the lower-case s had two forms: the familiar “round s” and the “long s”; the latter closely resembled the lower-case f, which can cause confusion for modern readers.



As a general rule of thumb, the “round s” was used if it was the last letter of a syllable, and the “long s” was used in most other positions. For example:

Saus	Säuser
eins	einst
Näschen	naschen

This rule is usually ignored today. A sign that in former times would have read **Gaststätte** is often printed today as **Gastst tte**.

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