

Recommended Online Dictionaries

We especially recommend [PONS](#), [dict.cc](#), and [Linguee](#). [LEO](#) and [BEOLINGUS](#) can also be useful.

- **Dict.cc** is **easiest to use**, has great “crowd-sourced” **pronunciation** samples, and lots of handy [tools](#) (Note the “**Wildcard Search**” option!). It is also a very good source for translations of technical terms.
- **PONS** is best for **choosing the right word**. ([Langenscheidt](#) also does this well.)
- **Linguee** shows you translations **in context** and has great **pronunciation** samples.
- **LEO** provides easier access to **noun plurals and verb conjugations**, covers more technical terms, and has a great **forum** for tricky questions.
- **BEOLINGUS** (now an archive, since summer 2024) provides messy results, but useful **examples**
- If in doubt, check your results by a **Google** search and/or by comparing German and English **wikipedia** entries.
- **Online translators are astonishingly good at translating language in context, but we do NOT recommend using an online translator as a dictionary:** a translator will normally provide you with the single translation for the word you are looking for that it considers to be most likely. The chances that this translation will fit the context you are working with are quite low!

If you would like a paper dictionary, try:

- *Langenscheidt Standard Dictionary German* (Get the paperback version: much cheaper and easier to use!)
- *Collins Beginner's German Dictionary* (Helpful usage examples; especially easy to read and use)