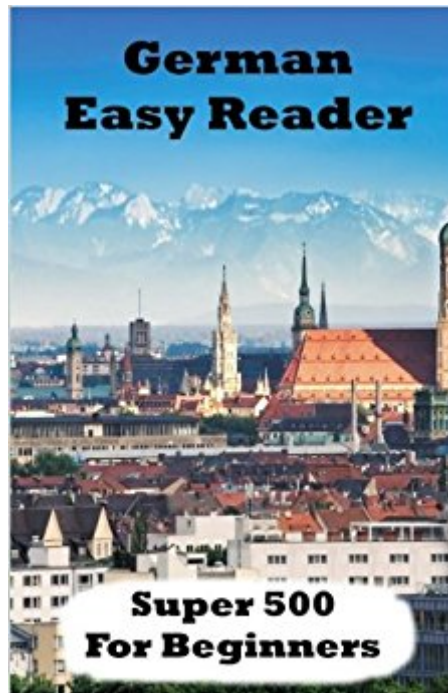




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German Easy Reader: Super 500



Synopsis

This easy reader is based on the 500 most common words in German. Knowing these will enable you to understand 80% of average German texts. The original German text is side by side with an English translation. All new words are introduced with an English translation in the text. Numerous pictures illustrate new words. Many verb tables show you how to conjugate new verbs correctly. MP3 recording of the German text in each unit is available for FREE as download. 13 simple stories to practise and learn in an easy and fun way. This book is for beginners. If you are more advanced check out 'German Pre-Intermediate Reader Super 1000' by the same author. www.briansmith.de

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Customer Reviews

Brian Smith was born in Germany in 1972. Son of a German mother and a British father he grew up having both German and English as his native languages. After completing his education in Germany, he moved in 1995 to Hong Kong where he spent twenty years teaching English and German. He has also learned other languages including French, Latin and Cantonese. His extensive teaching practice with people of different ages and nationalities, and his own experience in studying foreign languages have given him a unique appreciation of how best to help learners make progress. He has already written several books including a series of children's stories describing the magical adventures of two small boys.

At first this book stuck me as ridiculously easy. In a single sitting, I read through chapter after chapter of the German text without looking at the parallel English translation. Then, I decided to read the parallel English translation to see if I could mentally put it back into German exactly how it appears on the page. This exercise showed me instantly what grammar I actually knew as opposed to what I could merely recognize. There was a big gap. If you use this book right, it will help you bridge that gap. The book is chuck full of grammar, and you will learn it without even realize you are learning it. The free online recording of all the German in the book also is a great feature. If I could give the book 6 stars, I would.

Fantastic book. This is exactly what I needed. Admittedly I have picked up random bits of German at various points throughout my life, but had very little formal study, I decided to give this a try, and couldn't recommend it more. It's simple in a good way. It talks through the various parts of a day, family life, etc. and the author goes out of his way to go over various ways of saying the same kind of thing. So learn various grammatical forms without poring over some boring chart (though the infrequent interspersed tables are quite useful). The pacing of introducing new material is perfect. And the best part of all is the free audio. Oh man.... Put on a chapter and read along. Repeat a few times if necessary and you'll have a pretty good understanding of everything being said. Then throw it on your iPod in the car while driving for review. I honestly would have paid twice the price for the audio. Seriously fantastic job, sir.

This book has given me just what I was seeking in my attempt to gain some basic knowledge of German. While it is written in a necessarily simple format, the book provides greater insight into the sentence structure and vocabulary of German than any other method I have used in my studies. The accompanying reading of the passages on the author's site adds to the books usefulness. I am reading and re-reading this book. When I feel a reasonable level of accomplishment, I look forward to buying the next level books written by the author.

Great book for the beginner. I have been studying German for about 2 years and I needed a book like this to better develop my understanding of the German sentence structure. The book has 13 chapters composed of little stories with grammar tidbits and few pictures to aid comprehension. It also has the parallel English translation and free MP3 downloadable to improve comprehension and pronunciation. I had other German-English books for beginners but, they were either too easy (children's book) or more appropriate for someone of intermediate level. This one is

just right and I am looking forward to progress to the other books of this series.

Smith introduces a basic start to German - which is more or less where I am at with the language - entertaining stories, with German on the left page with matching near literal translations facing. New vocabulary and verbs highlighted as they are introduced, a really useful way to get a grip on grammar and syntax while reading. First class. I've subsequently bought the more advanced books by the same author, and they seem to be working!

Great great book! Thank you Brian Smith for writing the kind of book I've been searching for. I bought this book in order to get used to word structure of the German language. I listen to the audio files to improve my listening, which I love because I won't butcher the German language with my poor pronunciation. When I want to challenge myself, I cover the German side of the book and translate it to English (out loud)! This way I can improve my pronunciation and build some muscle memory in my mouth ;)

..with only minimal German lessons, I started reading this book, slowly. When I realised I was reading a book in German, I was more motivated to keep learning. Anytime a word or sentence stumped me, I could reference the next page (in english) and then jump back and continue reading in German. I've read it a couple of times and doing so has helped build confidence. I would recommend.

The Brian Smith German Easy Reader Super 500 is an excellent way to start learn the German language. It is very much like we learn our first language through use and repetition. Downloading Mr Smith's free audio files from his web site provides much needed help in pronouncing the words. Once I feel comfortable with the Easy Reader I will buy the next book and hopefully continue on through all of the books.

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