



Five Google Hacks to Decipher Your German Documents by Katherine Schober

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1. Add Category Clues to Tailor Your Search

Type your transcription guess + the English or German word below:

- a. occupation or *Beruf*
- b. illness or *Krankheit*
- c. first name or *Vorname*
- d. last name or *Nachname*
- e. abbreviation or *Abkürzung*
- f. currency or *Währung*
- g. unit of measurement or *Maßnahme*
- h. military or *Militär*
- i. meaning or *Bedeutung*
- j. genealogy or *Ahnenforschung*

2. Translate Websites to See Them in English

- a. With Chrome: Right-click > Translate to English
- b. Otherwise: Copy and paste link via Google Translate

3. Use Quotes to Search the Remainder of a Phrase

- a. Bible verses or hymns
- b. Legal or standard forms
- c. Songs
- d. Poems
- e. Commonly-used phrases



4. Use Wildcard Feature to Fill in the Blank

- a. Use quotes with asterisk * for missing word
- b. Can use asterisk more than once in same phrase
- c. Use for common phrases

5. Use Google Maps to Decipher Town Names

- a. Search the town where your document comes from
- b. Browse towns nearby to see possible names
- c. Extra Hint: You can also use the map on www.meyersgaz.org for this trick.

You got this!

Additional German Resources from Katherine Schober, found at
www.germanologyunlocked.com:

- 1. [*Reading the Old German Handwriting Course*](#)
- 2. [*German for Genealogists Online Course*](#)
- 3. [*Tips and Tricks of Deciphering German Handwriting \(Book\)*](#)
- 4. [*The Magic of German Church Records \(Book\)*](#)