Das deutſche Alphabet

Fraktur	Cursive	Roman	Fraktur	Cursive	Roman	Fraktur	Cursive	Roman
𝕬 𝖆	*Cl a*	A a	𝕷 𝖑	*L l*	L l	Ü ü	*U ü*	Ü ü
𝕬̈ 𝖆̈	*Cl ä*	Ä ä	𝕸 𝖒	*M m*	M m	𝖁 𝖛	*V v*	V v
𝕭 𝖇	*B b*	B b	𝕹 𝖓	*N n*	N n	𝖂 𝖜	*W w*	W w
𝕮 𝖈	*L c*	C c	𝕺 𝖔	*O o*	O o	𝖃 𝖝	*X x*	X x
𝕯 𝖉	*D d*	D d	𝕺̈ 𝖔̈	*Ö ö*	Ö ö	𝖄 𝖞	*Y y*	Y y
𝕰 𝖊	*E e*	E e	𝕻 𝖕	*P p*	P p	𝖅 𝖟	*Z z*	Z z
𝕱 𝖋	*f f*	F f	𝕼 𝖖	*Q q*	Q q			
𝕲 𝖌	*G g*	G g	𝕽 𝖗	*R r*	R r	**Special Characters**		
𝕳 𝖍	*H h*	H h	𝕾 ſ 𝖘	*S s*	S s	*Fraktur*	*Cursive*	*Roman*
𝕴 𝖎	*I i*	I i	ẞ	*ß*	ß	ch		ch
𝕵 𝖏	*J j*	J j	𝕿 𝖙	*T t*	T t	ck		ck
𝕶 𝖐	*K k*	K k	𝖀 𝖚	*U ü*	U u	ſch		ſch
						tz		tz

THE GERMAN ALPHABET

Officially, the German alphabet is the same as the one we use, with 26 characters. German uses four additional characters: the **ß** or *eszet*, and the three vowels with umlaut, *ä*, *ö*, and *ü*. They are not considered separate letters, however, and do not affect alphabetical order. The *ä* is alphabetized as if it were a plain *a*, the *ö* as *o*, the *ü* as *u*, and the *ß* as *ss*. Historically, the umlaut originated as a German cursive *e*, *n*, written over the vowel in question. In older books, we often see umlaut vowels printed with a small superscript *e* [ᵉ] over the vowel:

$$\text{𝕬𝖊 å = Ae ae = Ä ä} \quad \text{𝕺 ȯ = Oe oe = Ö ö} \quad \text{Ü ů = Ue ue = Ü ü}$$

In view of the origin of the umlaut symbol, Germans have long been regarded it as permissible to replace *ä* with *ae*, *ö* with *oe*, and *ü* with *ue*, whenever the proper German characters were not available for use in typesetting or on a typewriter. Similarly, *ß* can be replaced with *ss*. If one can use the proper characters, it is better to do so; but use of the alternatives is acceptable.

When the German typeface called *Fraktur* was standard, two forms were used for the letter **s**. The form 𝖘 was used only at the end of words, either when standing alone or when combined with others in compound words. Otherwise, ſ, the so-called "long s," was used. A similar usage was once standard in English. If you have looked at old documents such as the Bill of Rights, you will often note use of ſ instead of **s** — for instance, *Congreſs* instead of *Congress*.