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Living Language German, Platinum Edition: A Complete Beginner Through Advanced Course, Including 3 Coursebooks, 9 Audio CDs, Complete Online Course, Apps, And Live E-Tutoring



Synopsis

For over 65 years, millions have learned with Living Language®. Now it's your turn. Based on the Living Language Method®, Platinum German gives you, the flexibility to fit language learning into your life. You choose where, when, and how you learn.

3 BOOKS: 46 lessons, additional review exercises, culture notes, an extensive glossary, and a grammar summary • plus a bonus notebook.

9 AUDIO CDS: Vocabulary, dialogues, audio exercises, and more • listen with the books or use for review on the go.

iPhone® AND iPad® COMPATIBLE APPS: Vocabulary flashcards, audio conversations, grammar notes, and interactive games all at your fingertips.

ONLINE COURSE: Access all of your language content in a rich, interactive experience that allows you to learn at home or wherever you and your laptop go.

E-TUTOR: Schedule tutoring sessions and get personal support, answers, and encouragement from language experts at no additional cost.

ONLINE COMMUNITY: Practice, share tips, get advice, and receive feedback from language experts, native speakers, and other users.

INSIDE THE PACKAGE YOU'LL FIND: The code required to access the Apps, Online Course, and e-Tutor. Check out Living Language's exclusive forums once you've registered as a Platinum user.

To learn more visit www.livinglanguage.com.

THE LIVING LANGUAGE METHOD® At the core of Platinum German is the Living Language Method®, based on linguistic science, proven techniques, and over 65 years of experience. Our four-point method teaches you the whole language so you can express yourself, not just recite memorized words or scripts.

Build a Foundation Start speaking German immediately using essential words and phrases.

Progress with Confidence Build on each lesson as you advance to full sentences, then actual conversations.

Retain what You've Learned Special recall exercises move your new language from short-term to long-term memory.

Achieve Your Goals Don't just mimic or memorize. Develop practical language skills to speak in any situation.

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Customer Reviews

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"The Living Language Platinum series has dragged the world of language learning into the 21st century."-Newsday

Living Language German is a great product for me. Intertwinning grammar and cultural stuff, it makes easier for us to learn the basics of German. With the Platinum Edition you get from basics to advanced. After the last book (advanced), you need to improve your vocabulary on your own, which is not hard because of the good ground you've got from Living Language books and CDs.

Living language does a fantastic job at ensuring, no matter what your learning style is, that you'll have a medium that suits you and your learning needs. Two very enthusiastic thumbs up!

Excellent

This is a great product for someone already familiar with the German language and is looking for a refresher to bring them to a higher level of competence. It is not the best for someone who has no knowledge of German.

I have just recieved the product in my house and I love the 3 books, the way that they teach you a new laguage 1000% recomended.I have problems with one of the CDs, but I contact them and they

send me a new replacement immediately.

Gift for the hub for Christmas. He asked for it and was pleased when he received it. Had an earlier version and this was more comprehensive.

The platinum access was not included. Just the workbooks and CDs. I feel robbed.

I waited a long while after receiving this through Vine before reviewing it, because I wanted to really give it a thorough review from the perspective of someone who'd taken at least half of the lessons. Well, I didn't get halfway through in these five months, since I don't have any upcoming German travel and therefore am really good at procrastinating my lessons. However, I think I learned more than I had with previous lesson plans like 'Michel Thomas Method' German For Beginners, 10-CD Program (Michel Thomas Series), which I've also purchased and used. The Michael Thomas CDs were great for two long trips to Germany with a native speaker, but I didn't get a good understanding of the language and felt like I was always memorizing chunks of conversation rather than being able to improvise. This particular lesson package aims to really get you to understand the vocabulary and structure of German, and I did like it a bit more. When you open the (very large) package of books, you get 1) a large envelope of audio CDs (rip them to your hard drive right away, so you can listen on the go), three lesson books (Essential, Intermediate, and Advanced), and a blank, lined book labeled, "Notebook." I thought the Notebook was a stupid addition at first, till I realized I could take notes on items like conjugations, etc (like being in college all over again!) and store them in the box with the other books quite easily. So I approve of the addition of the notebook after all. The books themselves are a nice cross between the workbooks we all remember from secondary/post-secondary school and traditional textbooks. Seems like the kids I tutor and babysit all have work/textbooks like this nowadays anyway, so it seems modern to have something without a separate hardbound textbook that you just end up writing in. Lastly, you get the most important item of all: the code for your online membership to the Living Language site. Take note that you should include the dashes when you type it in - I faithfully typed it in three times, only to get a generic "error" message, so you do need those dashes. As another reviewer noted, the code gives you lifetime (of the device) access to the iPad premium app, the iPhone premium app, and one year's access to the website (seems cheap to me that they don't just give you a year's access, and I can't tell yet if I can buy tutoring separately the next year). The iPhone is, I think, too small of a screen even on the 4GS to really get much benefit out of the app's features, so I haven't gotten

much use out of that. However the iPad app is AWESOME and is basically the exact same thing as the website. In fact, having gone through many of the lessons simultaneously on both, the only difference I can find is that some of the letters unique to German (double s, etc) are not properly rendered on the iPad. No biggie, because the app is so nice. If you're considering getting this program, have an iPad, and don't need the addition of a text/workbook to the lesson plan, I strongly recommend you check out the iPad app for about one fourth of the price. It includes all of the games, flash cards, and other great things about the lessons but does NOT include audio files or (obviously) the book. For me, the books were really helpful, but I could have gone for the cheaper option if it wasn't a Vine selection. A couple of other things that particularly stood out with this system, versus others:- Versions of common greetings, sayings, and phrases based on different areas of the German-speaking world are included in the lessons of this book. Remember that Germany is a big conglomeration of lots of different ancient fiefdoms, so some words (especially greetings) are different. I appreciate that this is reflected in the vocabulary lessons, especially in the "Essential" book. Only complaint is that they go for a relatively Southern German accent (so for the German word for I, the voice on the audio and website uses "ichkk/eeek" instead of "icsh/eesh," giving the voice lots of that guttural German sound you hear around Mainz instead of the relatively softer, almost French-like sound of accents in Northern areas like Hamburg). This is just a preference thing based on where you're traveling and what kind of German your friends/colleagues/clients are used to hearing, but I will say that people with the two different accents do, at times, have a hard time understanding one another (think the difference between a New England accent and a Kentucky drawl). So form your accent wisely and then tackle this language course with that understanding, especially since you can bet just about all of the people you meet in Germany will have something to say (one way or the other) about the accent you choose to adopt. I find the "icsh" sound is a lot easier for me, as a native English speaker, to adopt and form in my mouth, but you might think differently and should make your own decision on that front.- The book IS really helpful. I'm not the kind of person that can really learn from one particular method, and being in my 30s, it's hard to learn and relearn a language, even having traveled in German countries. So the book is a nice way to keep going back to the same lessons over and over, and to train my brain in different ways. For example, lessons often have a section on phonetics, a section on the vocab matching, a section on proper social manners in conversation about the topic at hand, and then games like "fill in the blank: Good Morning ____ Guten Morgen__") as well as word searches. All of these things were really helpful for me. I'm not sure I'd have plunked down the money for this complete version, given that the fourth-of-the-price iPad app is out there.

However, considering all that comes with this set (three books, notebook, audio cd's, iPad and iPhone lifetime upgraded membership, free tutoring), this is a great deal. I highly recommend it to someone going on a trip or trying to learn German for any reason.

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