

Most-Common German Last Names

1. **Müller** (Mueller, Möller) = miller
2. **Schmidt** (Schmitz, Schmitt, Schmid) = smith
3. **Schneider** = tailor
4. **Fischer** = fisher
5. **Meyer** (Meier, Maier, Mayer) = dairyman
6. **Weber** = weaver
7. **Schulz** (Schulze, Scholz) = mayor
8. **Wagner** = wagoner, wainwright
9. **Becker** = baker
10. **Hoffmann** (Hofmann) = landed farmer
11. **Schäfer** (Schaefer) = shepherd
12. **Koch** = cook
13. **Bauer** = farmer, peasant
14. **Schröder** (Schroeder) = carter
15. **Klein** = small, little
16. **Richter** = judge
17. **Wolf** = wolf
18. **Neumann** = new man
19. **Schwarz** = black
20. **Schmitz** (Schmidt) = smith
21. **Krüger** (Krueger) = potter
22. **Braun** = brown
23. **Zimmermann** = carpenter
24. **Schmitt** (Schmidt) = smith
25. **Lange** = long
26. **Hartmann** = tough/strong man
27. **Hofmann** (Hoffmann) = landed farmer
28. **Krause** = curly-haired
29. **Werner** = *meaning uncertain*
30. **Meier** = dairyman
31. **Schmid** (Schmidt) = smith
32. **Schulze** (Schulz) = mayor
33. **Lehmann** = serf
34. **Köhler** (Koehler) = charcoal-maker
35. **Maier** (Meyer) = dairyman
36. **Herrmann** = warrior
37. **König** (Koenig) = king
38. **Mayer** (Meyer) = dairyman
39. **Walter** = army leader; ruler
40. **Peters** = rock (from Latin/Greek)
41. **Möller** (Moeller, Müller) = miller
42. **Huber** = land owner (hoover)
43. **Kaiser** = emperor
44. **Fuchs** = fox
45. **Scholz** (Schulz) = mayor
46. **Weiß** = white/wheat
47. **Lang** = long
48. **Jung** = young
49. **Hahn** = rooster
50. **Keller** = cellar, basement (i.e., someone who worked in a wine cellar or *Rathskeller*)