

## personal profile (2) : talking about work

<p><b>Learn with television</b></p> <p><b>Talk German: Programme 3</b></p> <p>Meet some of Germany's well-trained and productive workforce and find out how to talk about your job. Look inside BMW's state-of-the-art headquarters and get to know some of its employees.</p> <p>Talk German is repeated regularly on BBC Learning Zone (BBC Two). Check out the details on <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningzone">www.bbc.co.uk/learningzone</a>, then video the programmes to watch at your leisure.</p>	<p><b>Learn online</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/german">www.bbc.co.uk/languages/german</a></p> <p><b>German Steps Stage 1: Saying what you do</b></p> <p>Watch Andrea exchanging information about work with some new friends, then do the activities, read about German work culture and follow the links to sites of interest.</p> <p><b>Talk German: Talk about what you do</b></p> <p>Find out about other people's professions, and tell them about your work. Watch the video clip, read the transcript, do the activity then check your progress.</p>
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<p><b>Learning hint</b></p> <p>If a German colleague hands you a business card, don't be put off by the long words. In English we often use a hyphen, but in German two or more words run straight on from each other. Break down the long words into their component parts and look up each bit in the dictionary: <b>Verkaufsleiter</b> is made up of <b>Verkauf</b>, meaning 'sale' and '<b>Leiter</b>' meaning 'manager'; <b>Fahrzeuglackierer</b> comes from <b>Fahrzeug</b> 'vehicle' and <b>Lackierer</b> 'sprayer'.</p>	
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<p><b>Key language</b></p> <p><b>Was sind Sie von Beruf?</b> What do you do for a living?  <b>Ich bin</b> I'm</p> <p><b>Wo arbeiten Sie?</b> Where do you work?  <b>Ich arbeite</b> I work</p> <p>... bei einer <b>Firma</b> ... for a company  ... im <b>Krankenhaus</b> ... in the hospital  ... an der <b>Universität</b> ... at the university  <b>Ich studiere</b> I study</p>	<p><b>Useful vocabulary</b></p> <p><b>der Beruf</b> job  <b>der Student/ die Studentin</b> student (m/f)  <b>der Lehrer / die Lehrerin</b> teacher (m/f)  <b>der Arzt/ die Ärztin</b> doctor (m/f)  <b>der Verkäufer/ die Verkäuferin</b> salesperson (m/f)  <b>der Ingenieur/ die Ingenieurin</b> engineer (m/f)  <b>die Firma</b> company  <b>das Büro</b> office</p>
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<p><b>Quiz</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How would you ask someone what they're studying?</li> <li>Would a man or a woman say <b>Ich bin Polizistin</b>?</li> <li>Would you use <b>du</b> or <b>Sie</b> to ask Herr Spitz whether he's a teacher?</li> <li>How would you say that you're a secretary?</li> <li>You're an electrician; what's your reply to the question <b>Sind Sie Mechaniker?</b></li> <li>What is <b>eine Lehrstelle</b>?</li> </ol>	<p>Answers on <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/german/answers.shtml">www.bbc.co.uk/languages/german/answers.shtml</a></p>
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