Checklist for a German National Visa  
- family reunion for spouses -

Please make sure that you present all the documents applicable as per the checklist when taking your appointment at the competent German Mission. Failure to do so may result in our inability to process your application and you having to book a new appointment.

- Valid passport (issued within the last 10 years and valid for at least another year as of date of visa application; passports with observations regarding name, date of birth, place of birth and sex cannot be accepted); passport must have at least two empty pages
- Application form, declarations form and contact information form duly filled signed
- Personal covering letter explaining the exact purpose and duration of stay
- Copy of all pages of your passport (A4 size copy)
- Copy of all pages of your spouse’s passport (A4 size copy)
- Certificate of residence (”Meldebescheinigung”) of the spouse living in Germany, not older than 6 months
- Copy of spouse’s residence permit (“Aufenthaltstitel”), if applicable
- Proof of marriage:
  a) if the marriage was performed according to the Hindu Marriage Act:
     - marriage registration certificate
     - temple certificate from the Mandir/Gurudwara
     - conversion certificate, if applicable
     - several photographs showing that the essential rites have been performed
  b) if the marriage was performed according to Shariat Law:
     - Nikahnama
     - Marriage registration certificate
     - Conversion certificate, if applicable
     - Several photographs (i.e. bridal couple signing the Nikahnama, Qazi, witnesses)
  c) if the marriage was performed according to Special Marriage Act (“Court Marriage”, “Civil Marriage”)
     - Certificate of Marriage according to Section 13 Special Marriage Act
     - Photographs of marriage or function
  d) if the marriage was performed according to the Christian Marriage Act:
     - Marriage certificate issued by licensed Church
     - Conversion certificate, if applicable
     - Photographs of marriage or function
  e) if the marriage did not take place in India or in Germany: marriage certificate with apostille
- Birth certificate issued under the “Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1969”
- School certificate: matriculation certificate or Middle School Board Certificate or school leaving certificate including the date of birth
- Proof of Residence in India: Aadhaar Card or Ration card of the applicant covering the past 4 years or Voter’s ID
- Divorce judgement and decree of all former marriages of both spouses, if applicable, German divorce judgement with “Rechtskraftvermerk”, which confirms that the judgment is final
- **Certificate of death of former spouse**, if applicable
- **Academic degree certificate**, if applicable
- **Proof of German knowledge (A1 level):** „Start Deutsch 1“ from Goethe-Institute or „Start Deutsch 1“ of telc GmbH (The European Language Certificate) or „Grundstufe Deutsch 1“ of the Austrian Language Diploma (ÖSD)

Please note that — under certain circumstances — there are exemptions from this requirement. For further information please refer to “[Information of German language requirement](https://india.diplo.de/in-en/service/-/2288440)"

- **Only if spouse is an EU citizen (except German citizen):** copy of the valid **employment contract and salary slips of the last three months** of the spouse living in Germany
- **Only if spouse is an EU citizen (except German citizen):** copy of the **lease agreement for accommodation** in Germany

- **4 passport pictures** according to biometric specifications, not older than 6 months

- **Fee for verification of documents**, unless all documents have been verified before. [Click here](https://india.diplo.de/in-en/service/-/2288440) to find out about the charges for the verification of all documents of Indian origin.

The verification procedure will be initiated and carried out by the Embassy or the locally competent Consulate. The process of verification takes between 8 to 12 weeks.

- **For MUMBAI only – Please present the following additional documents:**

  - Invitation letter of spouse, spouse’s employment contract, spouse’s salary slips of the past three months, lease deed (if spouse is already residing in Germany)

  Kindly also bring your marriage photo album along

Please prepare **two identical application sets** consisting of copies of the above-mentioned documents and bring **all your original certificates** along. Please DO NOT staple any documents.

In case a document is not set up in German or English, it has to be submitted together with a **notary attested English translation**.

Please note that the German Missions reserve the right to ask for additional documents or, in rare cases, further investigations of certificates, for which additional fees would be charged.

As your application will also be forwarded to the competent immigration authorities in Germany, **processing will take at least three months**. Please be informed that regular **status enquiries during the first three months after submission of your application will not be answered**.

Please ensure that you have family health cover through your spouse. Until health cover has been established you might want to take a travel health insurance (Kindly refer to [www.india.diplo.de/visa](http://www.india.diplo.de/visa) to find out about the travel health insurances accepted).

Submission of the above-mentioned documents does not guarantee that a visa will be granted. Submission of incomplete documentation or refusal to appear for a visa interview will delay your application and may result in the rejection of your application.

For further information please refer to [https://india.diplo.de/in-en/service/-/2288440](https://india.diplo.de/in-en/service/-/2288440)

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