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## Registration & Change of Address — Anmeldung in Germany

How to register, change, or deregister your residence — deadlines, required documents, and appointment booking at the Einwohnermeldeamt.

**Deutsche Begriffe:** Anmeldung | Ummeldung | Wohnsitz | Einwohnermeldeamt | Meldebescheinigung | Bürgeramt

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### Registration — Mandatory Within 14 Days

After moving into an apartment in Germany, you must **register within 14 days** at the appropriate Einwohnermeldeamt (Bürgeramt). This applies to every move — including moves within the same city (**Ummeldung**).

#### Required Documents

- **Completed Registration Form** (Anmeldung bei einer Meldebehörde)
- **ID Card or Passport** (original)
- **Wohnungsgeberbestätigung** (landlord's certificate) — your landlord must issue this within 14 days of your move-in
- For families: children's birth certificates, and marriage certificate if applicable

#### Change of Address (Ummeldung)

When moving within Germany, you register at your new address — deregistration from your old address happens automatically.

#### Booking an Appointment

In major cities (Hamburg, Berlin, Munich), appointments are often booked weeks in advance. **Tip:** Book your appointment immediately after signing the lease.

- **Hamburg:** [hamburg.de/buergerservice](https://hamburg.de/buergerservice)

- **Berlin:** service.berlin.de
- **Munich:** muenchen.de/buergerservice

### Registration Certificate (Meldebescheinigung)

After registration, you receive a **Meldebescheinigung** (registration confirmation). You'll need it for:

- Opening a bank account
- Employment contract
- Residence permit applications
- Child benefit claims

### Fine for Late Registration

If you miss the 14-day deadline, you risk a fine of up to **€1,000**. In practice, short delays often go unpunished.

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