

- ARCHION.de/en
- For the MPAFUG Group
- February 2026
- By Randy Ray
- What is ARCHION
- Archion is a website (database) with Non-Catholic German Records. (protestant)
- 175,000 church books online, browsable.
- Not Searchable, however.
- 25 Archives are listed. More every week.
- Downloads are available. The images are very good, and you can zoom in and out.
- You can communicate with other researchers.
- In the site you need a “PASS” which is a membership.
- A monthly “PASS” is about 19 EUROS OR \$25 US.
- You search by Territory.
- It translates into English.
- Gemini ai
- Yes, [German church records found on Archion](#) (Protestant) are also available elsewhere, primarily on [FamilySearch](#) (often as indexed records or microfilms), [Matricula Online](#) (Catholic records), and

sometimes through individual regional archives, but Archion offers unique, high-quality scans not always elsewhere, requiring subscriptions for full access while FamilySearch offers free access for many indexed records and microfilm copies.

- [Archion](#): Focuses on Protestant records, often has the best, unindexed scans, requires a paid subscription for image access (though some test records are free), and is vital for records not digitized elsewhere.
- [FamilySearch](#): Free access to vast collections, excellent for finding *what* records exist (via indexes/catalogs) and linking to images, but images might be older microfilm scans or point back to Archion.
- Recommendation: Use FamilySearch and Matricula as your starting point for free records, then use Archion (paid) for detailed image research in specific Protestant areas where other sources fall short.
- Although not all the regional evangelical churches in Germany have opted to join the database, twenty-five have. Church records from the following archives are included:
 - Evangelisches Zentralarchiv Berlin
 - Landeskirchliches Archiv der Evangelisch-Lutherischen Kirche in Bayern

- Landeskirchliches Archiv der Evangelisch-Lutherischen Kirche in Norddeutschland
- Landeskirchliches Archiv der Evangelischen Kirche von Westfalen
- Landeskirchliches Archiv Hannover
- Landeskirchliches Archiv in Berlin
- Landeskirchliches Archiv Karlsruhe
- Landeskirchliches Archiv Kassel
- Landeskirchliches Archiv Stuttgart
- Zentralarchiv der evangelischen Kirche der Pfalz
- Zentralarchiv der evangelischen Kirche in Hessen und Nassau.
- When browsing the collections within each archive, you'll note that many of the options are color-coded. Those in green indicate that images are available to be viewed online. The items within the area selected may contain highlighted parishes as well as non-highlighted parishes, as not all items within a parish may be available online. Those that are not highlighted are available at the archive, but not online currently.
- Using Archion for German Research Germany "How to" Guide, Beginner Level: Instruction October 2018
 - From the Family Search Website
 - Finding the parish records The church records found in

Archion are organized by parish name. If you need to find the parish for your locality, a helpful resource is the website www.meyersgaz.org. To learn how to use this website, check out the Meyer's Gazetteer Online: www.meyersgaz.org "How to" Guide. Before creating an account, search first to see if your parish records are digitally available. Open the website, <https://www.archion.de>. In the top navigation bar, click on the world icon. Here you can select which language you would like to use the website in.

- Search option To use the search option: 1. In the left corner of the dark navigation bar, click on Search. The search screen will appear. 2. Type in the name of your parish in the "location" field. The "location" field allows you to choose the entries for one specific parish. By pressing the space bar after entering the parish name, a list of possible matches appears. Each match consists of two lines. The bolded line is the name of the archive; the second line states the name of the parish, preceded by the name of the Kreis or district where the parish is found.
 - KB = Kirchenbuch Church books with multiple record types
 - T, Tauf, Taufen, Taufregister, Baptisms

- TR, Trau, Ehen, Trauungen Marriages
- B, Tote, Bestattungen, Beerdigungen
- Konf = Konfirmationen, Konfirmanden Burials Confirmations varies
- Reg = Register
- Source: www.archion.de.
- This is a link you can copy and pasted to your browser for the Family Search How to Guide for Archion.
- chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/img_auth.php/9/91/1_-_Using_Archion_for_German_Research_-_Instruction_B_Johnson_Oct_2018_JMR.pdf
- Here is how to search by screenshot.
- Notice the controls at the top of the image bar.
- Brighten, darken, enlarge, shrink.
- Let's look for marriage records in Scherzheim, 1840-1870.
- Now. Let's look at a sample image.
- I am just starting to research overseas records for my family. I do not read any foreign languages. So, I have been using Gemini Ai to translate.
- And I'll show you how I take it to the next level with Gemini Ai.

den 1 Julij [ist] Johan Berndt Bräuning auf Ehrenbreitstein und Margaretha Knappin hier Copulirt worden.

Translation: *On the 1st of July, Johan Berndt Bräuning from Ehrenbreitstein and Margaretha Knappin were married (copulated) here.*

Johan Berndt Bräuning: The groom. "Berndt" is a common variation of Bernhard.

Margaretha Knappin: The bride. The "-in" suffix on "Knappin" is a traditional German grammatical marker for a female surname; her family name is Knapp.

- This is a German marriage register from the year 1677. The header and first entry are written in a formal Fraktur and Kurrent script typical of church records from that era. Gemini

Heading

- Anno 1677: Zum heiligen Ehestande getroffenen personen. (*In the year 1677: Persons who entered into the holy state of matrimony.*)
- Gemini Ai works for me and saves me time and effort.
- Before we look at Archion we need to ask why would I pay for this site?
- Pros;
 - Fairly easy to use.
 - They have a lot of records.
 - The images are Excellent.
- Cons;

- Very expensive.
 - Only has Protestant records.
 - Only about 25 areas are covered. Germany.
 - My suggestion is, if you are very interested and a seasoned researcher, try it for one month.
-
- I have only used this site for a few days and do not know everything about it.
 - Thank you.