



LEARNING DANISH

FOR HOMESCHOOLERS

A GUIDE

mortenholmstrup.dk

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Why is it important to learn Danish?

According to Danish law...

...a homeschooled student needs to receive education that is equivalent to a Danish public school education. After completing the ninth grade, students should have the same opportunities for secondary education as their public school peers.



As Danish is a **mandatory** subject in the Danish school system, this means that homeschooled students (regardless of their native language) should be able to complete a Danish exam at a public school or an entrance test to a secondary school at the end of the ninth grade.

Other reasons to learn Danish...



It makes integration easier

Understanding language helps you feel a connection to your new home.



It helps children gain a greater understanding and appreciation of Danish culture

Language is key to understanding customs and culture and to make sense of your surroundings.



It opens up more possibilities for the future

Language skills will make it easier to gain access to secondary education and jobs.



It builds confidence

Being able to understand the people around you and express yourself in their language will boost confidence.

General tips



Speak Danish at Home

Try to use Danish in daily conversations with your family, even if you're not a native speaker.

Learn together

Make learning Danish a joint family project. Overcoming obstacles together and supporting each other can heighten motivation and prevent frustrations.





Language courses and private tutors

Some homeschoolers choose to enroll their children in language courses or take courses together. Some online courses are on-demand, while others offer live video tutoring.

It might also be possible to hire a private language tutor where you live.



While it is necessary to learn Danish, it is also important to hold on to the child's first language. Maintaining your native language is vital for development and identity.



Go on tours

Visit Danish museums or landmarks and learn about Danish history together.

Get involved

An effective way to get accustomed to the Danish language is by socialising with Danish-speaking children and adults.



Join local homeschooling groups

If possible, consider engaging in local homeschooling groups, where you might be able to get tips and insights from other homeschooling families.

For younger children



Read aloud

Reading aloud from Danish children's books will stimulate language learning.

Start with simple picture books and gradually progress to reading more complex stories

Danish television

Watching children's television shows in Danish can be a fun and unobtrusive way to get familiar with phrases and pronunciation. The national Danish broadcaster, DR, offers a wide variety of Danish programs for free.





There are many ways to approach learning Danish in a fun and playful manner. The most important thing is incorporating Danish into your everyday life

Playgroups

Join local playgroups where your child can play and interact with Danish-speaking children.



Singing and rhyming

Singing and rhyming together is a fun way to practice language and pronunciation.

Apps & Games

Playing board games or video games that involve Danish is another fun and interactive way to get accustomed to the language.



For older children and teens



Sports and other activities

Joining a local sports team or hanging out with Danish speaking young people doing something you love can be an engaging and fun way to acquire language skills.

Watching tv and movies with subtitles

Watching movies, Youtube videos or tv-shows you like with subtitles can be an immersive and entertaining addition to other learning tools.





Ungdomsskolen

Most Danish municipalities have a local “Ungdomsskole”, which offers a wide variety of free classes for teens in the 7th grade and above.

Such classes might include jewelry making, 3D printing, theater, music or roleplaying games. Some even offer language courses. Consult your local Ungdomsskole about the possibilities.



Listen to music & podcasts

Listen to Danish music and look up the lyrics, or try some of the podcasts aimed at language learners.

Connect with other language learners

Learning together can increase motivation, and as an added bonus you get to connect with other people. If it's difficult to find other language learners in your area, consider online language exchange forums or try to find penpals.

Remember...

Learning a new language can be hard!

Be patient and concentrate on making learning **fun**. Take small steps and remember to **laugh**!



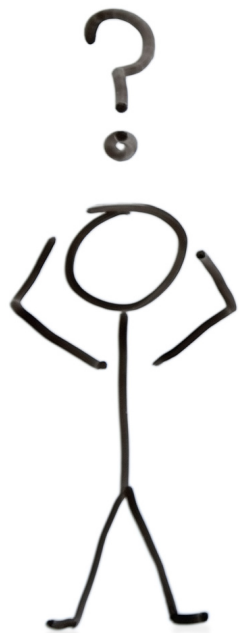
Don't be afraid to make mistakes

Speaking Danish with native Danish speakers can be daunting at first. Don't worry about making mistakes – they are a natural part of learning, and most people will likely appreciate your effort in speaking their language.

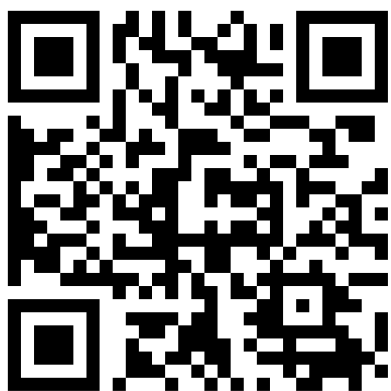
Resources

Local resources

Be sure to consult your local library, municipality or homeschooling network to enquire about local language learning possibilities or study groups.



Language resources for homeschoolers



Find a list of examples of resources for homeschoolers wishing to learn Danish at <https://mortenholmstrup.dk/learndanish> or just follow the QR code.