

## German Tenses

Pasadena City College – Germania Culture Club

	<b>Active Voice</b> The subject is performing the action ( <i>I read</i> ) and the object is being acted upon.	<b>Passive Voice</b> The subject is being acted upon, in other words, it is passive. The subject performing the action is mentioned in a prepositional phrase ( <i>by / von + Dat</i> ), and it is called the “ <u>agent</u> .”
<b>Present</b>     <b>with modal verb</b>	<p>Ich <b>lese</b> das Buch. I read the book.</p> <p>Ich <b>muss</b> das Buch <b>lesen</b>. I must read the book.</p>	<p>Das Buch <b>wird von mir gelesen</b>. The book is read <u>by me</u>.</p> <p>Das Buch <b>muss von mir gelesen werden</b>. The book must be read <u>by me</u>.</p>
<b>Simple Past</b>     <b>with modal verb</b>	<p>Ich <b>las</b> das Buch. I read the book.</p> <p>Ich <b>musste</b> das Buch <b>lesen</b>. I had to read the book.</p>	<p>Das Buch <b>wurde von mir gelesen</b>. The book was read <u>by me</u>.</p> <p>Das Buch <b>musste von mir gelesen werden</b>. The book had to be read <u>by me</u>.</p>
<b>Present Perfect</b>     <b>with modal verb</b>	<p>Ich <b>habe</b> das Buch <b>gelesen</b>. I have read the book.</p> <p>Ich <b>habe</b> das Buch <b>gelesen müssen</b>. I have had to read the book.</p>	<p>Das Buch <b>ist von mir gelesen worden</b>. The book has been read by me.</p> <p>Das Buch <b>hat von mir gelesen werden müssen</b>. The book had been read <u>by me</u>.</p>
<b>Past Perfect</b>     <b>with modal verb</b>	<p>Ich <b>hatte</b> das Buch <b>gelesen</b>. I had read the book.</p> <p>Ich <b>hatte</b> das Buch <b>gelesen müssen</b>. I had had to read the book.</p>	<p>Das Buch <b>war von mir gelesen worden</b>. The book had been read <u>by me</u>.</p> <p>Das Buch <b>hatte von mir gelesen werden müssen</b>. The book had had to be read <u>by me</u>.</p>
<b>Future</b>     <b>with modal verb</b>	<p>Ich <b>werde</b> das Buch <b>lesen</b>. I will read the book.</p> <p>Ich <b>werde</b> das Buch <b>lesen müssen</b>. I will have to read the book.</p>	<p>Das Buch <b>wird von mir gelesen werden</b>. The book will be read <u>by me</u>.</p> <p>Das Buch <b>wird von mir gelesen werden müssen</b>. The book will have to be read <u>by me</u>.</p>