

ID cards and passport photos: Changes from May 2025 in Germany

From May 2025, there will be new rules for ID documents and passport photos in Germany. Here is a simple explanation of the most important points:

Passport photos will only be digital:

- Passport photos for ID cards may no longer be brought on paper.
- They must be taken digitally and sent directly to the authorities.

This works.

- at special photo machines at the Citizens' Registration Office (cost: approx. 6 euros).
- at authorised photographers and drugstores.

The pictures are stored in encrypted form:

- The authorities can retrieve the image online using a special code.
- This protects against identity theft and makes ID cards more secure.

These ID documents are affected:

- Passport
- identity card
- Electronic residence permit
- Travel documents

Further information:

- From May 2025, ID cards may also be sent home by post.
- It will be possible to receive e-mail reminders shortly before the card expires.
- Simple change of address:
Sending a security sticker to be stuck into the ID card itself.
- Since January 2024, children from the age of 6 must also provide fingerprints, there are only passports with a chip.

💡 You can use the following links to book an appointment for a passport photo. The foreigners authority can then scan your photos using the QR code.

🌐 <https://www.dm.de/services/services-im-markt/foto...>

🌐 [https:// alfo-passbild.com/fotograf-in-der-naehe/](https://alfo-passbild.com/fotograf-in-der-naehe/)