

7 Steps to Learn French on Your Own

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Learning French without a formal classroom is absolutely possible — if you have the right plan. This guide gives you 7 practical, doable steps you can follow at your own pace, whether you're a beginner or restarting after a break.

Step 1: Set a Clear Goal

Why it matters:

You need to know why you're learning French. Your "why" will keep you going when motivation dips.

What to do:

- Define your purpose: travel, exams (DELF/TEF), work, or just love for the language?
- Pick a level target: e.g. "Reach A2 by December."
- Break it into weekly mini-goals: e.g. "Learn 20 verbs this week."

Tools:

- Use a planner or Google Sheets to track progress
- Apps like Notion or Trello to break goals down

Step 2: Start With the Sounds

Why it matters:

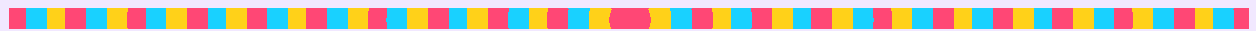
French pronunciation is unique — start by training your ear and mouth before memorizing lists.

What to do:

- Learn the French alphabet, nasal sounds, and accents
- Practice phonics and silent letters
- Repeat and shadow native speakers

Tools:

- YouTube: French phonetics
- App: Speechling, Forvo, or ELSA Speak



Step 3: Master the Basics

Why it matters:

You need a strong base — grammar, verbs, and sentence structure.

What to do:

- Focus on: subject pronouns, être/avoir, present tense verbs, articles, negation
- Use simple dialogues and fill-in-the-blanks

Tools:

- Book: “Practice Makes Perfect: Basic French”
- Websites: Bonjour de France, Tex’s French Grammar
- Follow my posts for bite-sized grammar

Step 4: Build a Vocabulary Bank 📖

Why it matters:

Words are your building blocks — but don't just memorize, connect them to real life.

What to do:

- Learn 10–15 words a day in themes (food, travel, emotions)
- Use flashcards, word maps, and associate with images or Hindi equivalents (e.g. alléchant = alishaan)

Tools:

- Quizlet / Anki
- Keep a vocab journal with example sentences
- Try “French Word of the Day” on Instagram

Step 5: Listen Like a Baby 🍼

Why it matters:

You learned your first language by listening, right? Do the same here!

What to do:

- Watch 5–10 min of French daily (cartoons, YouTube, podcasts)
- Don't worry about understanding everything — focus on the sounds
- Repeat after the speaker (called shadowing)

Tools:

- Podcasts: Coffee Break French, InnerFrench

- Netflix shows with French audio and subtitles: Lupin, Call My Agent!
- My curated YouTube list (DM me "VIDEOS" for it!)

Step 6: Start Speaking (Even If It's Broken!) 🗣️

Why it matters:

You will never feel "ready." You need to speak early and often to get fluent.

What to do:

- Talk to yourself while doing daily tasks
- Join online speaking groups or find a language partner
- Record yourself weekly to track progress

Tools:

- HelloTalk, Tandem (language partners)
- Join my free French speaking club (details inside!)
- Use voice notes with friends or tutors

Step 7: Stay Consistent – Not Perfect 📅

Why it matters:

Language learning is a marathon, not a sprint. Don't chase perfection. Chase progress.

What to do:

- 20 minutes daily > 2 hours once a week
- Review your notes weekly

- **Celebrate small wins:** understanding a song lyric, forming a full sentence, etc.

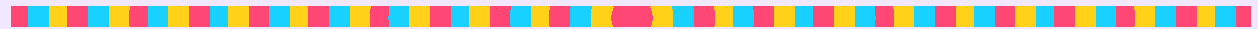
Tools:

- Habit trackers (apps or printed)
- My 21-day study challenge -For B1/B2 learners (DM "CHALLENGE" to join!)



Bonus Tips

- Set your phone and apps in French
- Talk to your pet, plant, or mirror in French
- Read easy graded readers (like "Short Stories in French for Beginners")
- Follow my Instagram Reels for daily French gems



Want to Go Deeper?

- ✨ Join my A1-A2 French courses or private sessions
- ✨ Get 24/7 support, structured lessons, and real conversation practice
- ✨ DM "DETAILS" to know more

You got this! 

— Ishita 

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