



# How Adolf Hitler Rose to Power in Germany

KS3 HISTORY

Ages 11-14 ⌚ 4 min read

## Germany After World War One

After **Germany** lost **World War One** in **1918**, the country was in terrible trouble. Germans had to pay huge amounts of money to other countries as punishment, called **reparations**. Banks failed, money became worthless through **hyperinflation**, and millions of people lost their jobs. People felt angry, embarrassed, and hopeless about their country's future.

The **German government** seemed weak and unable to fix these problems. People disagreed about how to solve the crisis, and political parties fought constantly. This chaos made ordinary Germans desperate for a strong leader who promised to fix everything.

## Who Was Adolf Hitler?

**Adolf Hitler** was an angry, ambitious man who led a small political party called the **Nazi Party** (or **NSDAP**). He was a powerful public speaker who blamed Germany's problems on specific groups of people, especially **Jewish people**. He promised to make Germany strong again and restore national pride.

Think of it like a school where everything goes wrong—bullying increases, money for activities disappears, and teachers can't control chaos. Then one popular student promises to fix everything and blames a particular group for the problems. Desperate students might believe them, even if their solutions are wrong and unfair.

## Rising to Power

In the **1930 elections**, more and more Germans voted for Hitler's Nazi Party because they wanted change and strong leadership. The party used clever **propaganda**—posters, speeches, and films designed to persuade people. Hitler promised jobs, national strength, and someone to blame for Germany's suffering.

In **January 1933**, **Hitler became Chancellor** (the leader of Germany's government). Once in power, he quickly grabbed more control. He used fear and violence to crush opposition, banned other political parties, and took away people's freedoms. By **1934**, he had total power as **Führer** (meaning leader).

## **Why Did People Support Him?**

Germans supported Hitler because they were suffering economically and wanted hope. His promises felt real because Germany's situation was so desperate. Many didn't realize how dangerous his ideas truly were until it was too late. This terrible period led to the **Second World War** and the **Holocaust**, one of history's darkest chapters.