

# Beck (surname)

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**Beck** is a surname of Germanic descent, meaning "brook" or "stream" (related to Old Norse *bekkr*), and is fairly common in English-speaking countries, Germany and Denmark. The German name can also be a variant of Becker, which is an occupational surname meaning "baker." In Hebrew, it exists as an abbreviated form of *B'nei Kiddoshim* ("sons of the martyrs"). Notable people with this surname include:

- Aaron T. Beck, founder of modern cognitive therapy
- Adam Beck (1857–1925), Canadian politician and hydro-electricity advocate
- András Beck (1911–1985), Hungarian sculptor
- Andreas Beck (footballer) (born 1987), German football player
- Andreas Beck (tennis), German tennis player
- Audrey P. Beck (1931-1983), American educator and politician
- Bill Beck (1900–1965), American college sports coach
- C. C. Beck, American cartoonist
- Charlie Beck, appointed Chief of the Los Angeles Police Department
- Christophe Beck, Canadian composer for film and TV, most notable for his work on *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*
- Claude Beck (1894–1971), American cardiac surgeon who invented the defibrillator
- Clifford W. Beck, American politician
- Corey Beck (born 1971), American basketball player
- "Dr. Beck", name taken by the Count de Werdinsky (1803–1856)
- Edward S. Beck (born 1946) Head, Susquehanna Institute, President, Scholars for Peace in the Middle East
- Franz Ignaz Beck, (1734-1809), German classical composer
- Gad Beck (1923-2012), German educator, author, activist, and survivor of the Holocaust
- George Beck (artist), artist and poet
- Gina Beck, English actress and singer
- Günther Beck von Mannagetta und Lerchenau, German botanist
- Hans Beck (1929–2009), German inventor
- Harry Beck, designer of the London Underground map
- Harry Beck (footballer)
- Jakob Sigismund Beck, German philosopher
- James M. Beck (1861–1936), United States Solicitor General and US Congressman from Pennsylvania
- Jeff Beck (born 1944), British electric guitarist
- Joe Beck (1945–2008), American jazz guitarist
- John Beck (actor) (born 1943), American actor
- John Beck (footballer), British football manager
- John Beck (gridiron football), NFL player and former BYU quarterback
- John Brodhead Beck, 19th-century United States physician



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- Jonathan Mock Beck (1935–2006), American mathematician
- Joko Beck, an American Zen teacher
- Józef Beck, Polish diplomat and military officer, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland (1932-1939)
- József Beck, a mathematician
- Justin Beck, American guitarist
- Karol Beck, Slovakian tennis player
- Kent Beck, major proponent of Extreme Programming
- Kimberly Beck (born 1956), American actress
- Kristin Beck
- Kurt Beck (born 1949), German politician (SPD)
- Laetitia Beck (born 1992), Israeli golfer
- Lewis Caleb Beck, 19th-century United States naturalist and physician
- Ludwig Beck, German general and participant in the failed attempt to assassinate Adolf Hitler
- Michael Beck (born 1949), American actor
- Mikkel Beck, Danish professional football player
- Paul W. Beck, American military aviation pioneer
- Peter Beck (politician) (born 1952), politician from Ohio
- Peter Beck (priest) (born c. 1948/1949), dean of ChristChurch Cathedral in Christchurch, New Zealand
- Rick Beck (born 1956), member of the Arkansas House of Representatives
- Robert Beck, alias of African American writer Iceberg Slim
- Robert Beck, alias of former D-12 rapper Karnail Pitts
- Robert Nason Beck, pioneer radiologist
- Robin Beck (born 1954), American singer
- Rod Beck (1968–2007), former relief pitcher in Major League Baseball
- Rollo Beck (1870–1950), American bird collector
- Theodore Beck, first principal of the MAO College at Aligarh, India
- Theodric Romeyn Beck, forensic scientist
- Ulrich Beck (1944-2015), German sociologist
- W. Raymond Beck, former member of Maryland House of Delegates

## Fictional characters

- Martin Beck, fictional Swedish police detective created by Sjöwall and Wahlöö

## See also

- Verbeek

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