The Peppercorns

onegate
A Studio Hamburg Company



Epic adventures and curious crimes – the dauntless Peppercorns pool their wits to solve every challenge in their path!

Information

Original title: Die Pfefferkörner

Genre: Children | Live Action

Format: 23 Seasons x 13 x 27’

Year of production: since 1999

Country of origin: Germany

watch here





Why it Works...



Longest-running children's Television series

Europes **longest-running**...

...and **most successful live action children's series**.



Award-Nomination

Nominated for International Emmy Kids Award 2019.

Educational Value



Teaching the young audience...

...critical thinking, problem solving and teamwork.



Strong Bonds of Friendships

Emphasizing the value of trust, support, and loyalty in their adventures.

Role Model Series



"I believe that the series also shows children the importance of standing up for others and fighting for justice ."

Jana Matthes (Screenwriter)

Comparables



ZDF/Cinema



ZDF/KiKa



BBC



Netflix



CBC Gem

Series Synopsis

Young, smart and inquisitive : The Peppercorns!

A group of teenage friends fights crime and injustice from their Hamburg warehouse HQ. Whether it's stolen art, extortion or kidnapping: they use clever detective work to crack the case and bring criminals to justice.

Along the way, they face dangers, personal challenges and unexpected twists, learning valuable lessons about friendship, teamwork and responsibility.





Recurring Locations



Hamburg Warehouse District



Headquarter

Cast



The cast of season 18.



The cast of season 19 and 20.



The cast of season 21.

The cast of "The Peppercorns" **regularly changes** to provide a **dynamic and thrilling viewing experience**. This strategy **keeps the series engaging** while continuously **appealing to its target audience**, thereby securing its **longevity**.


Season
18

Season Synopsis

Twins Lou and Pippa are soon joined by Rafa, Jet, and Milan but first, they team up with Jonny and Clarissa for two final cases. One hits close: Lou's classmate Tali is targeted by antisemitism, and the Peppercorns rally around her.

As Lou and Pippa search for a new HQ, Rafa refuses to share his attic, until his mom's laptop is stolen. The girls step in, and a daytime base is born.





Cast



Pippa

Pippa has a gift for asking the right and toughest questions. Paralyzed after an accident six years ago, she rejects pity and stands strong, even when her past resurfaces. Good thing Jet, a kind and mysterious new Peppercorn, is by her side.



Lou

Lou, Pippa's twin, is bold and stylish, with a flair for first aid and persuasion. Always the center of attention, her confidence can rub others the wrong way. But beneath it all, she's deeply loyal — ready to give everything for her mother and sister.



Rafa

Rafa loves having the HQ to himself, gaming with best friend Jet. At first, he won't share it... until Lou shows up and catches his eye. Stubborn but loyal, Rafa is quick on his feet and more sensitive than he lets on...



Milan

Milan, Rafa's younger brother, is wild about animals and photography, even if it means chasing bugs on the way to school. A handful at home, he's a sharp-eyed, brave, and quick-thinking Peppercorn who knows how to bend the truth just right.



Jet

Jet, Rafa's best friend, is a coding whiz and the calm voice of reason in the team. He keeps cool and collects facts, unless his mom or friends are treated unfairly. Then, Jet doesn't hold back.









Impressions...








Season 19 and
20

Season Synopsis

New Faces in the Headquarters: The 13th Generation of the "Peppercorns" Takes Over!

Moritz, Amy, Hakim and Jasina solve their final cases before handing over to a brand-new team.

The new Peppercorns dive straight in: missing gold, smugglers, scammers, and more. When Moritz vanishes, Amy calls for backup and the 10th generation returns. Together, they chase clues from a luxury neighborhood to a hidden airfield, facing the Eulenspiegel Gang, blackout chaos, and dangerous criminals.





Cast



Amy

Amy, the youngest Peppercorn, has been hearing-impaired since age four but she's all smiles and sharp instincts.



Moritz

Confident and convinced he's always right, Moritz often clashes with others but means well. He's protective of his younger sister Amy and helps her communicate with sign language when she needs it.



Hakim

Hakim is quiet, curious, and science-obsessed, examining every clue with care. His family fled Syria when he was four, and his biggest wish is for his father to join them so they can be whole again.



Leonie

Leonie runs away to escape her mother's depression. Tough on the outside but vulnerable within, things shift when Moritz and Amy find her hideout and make it Peppercorn HQ. Soon, Leonie joins the team and takes the oath.



Jasina

Jasina is warm, imaginative, and a natural at conflict resolution, thanks to her empathy and mediator skills. Brave but thoughtful, she chooses to focus on her life in Hamburg rather than the family's past escape from Syria.









Impressions...







Season 21

New team, new challenges – same unstoppable spirit.

Season Synopsis

A time of transition for The Peppercorns:

Moritz, Amy, Hakim and Jasina solve their final cases before handing over to a brand-new team: Taara, Jules, Kofi, Malin and Piet.

From cyber grooming and gang crime to art theft, sabotage, animal rights extremism and even a dangerous kidnapping, the new generation is thrown headfirst into a wide range of complex investigations. While learning to work together and honing their detective skills, the five young sleuths face personal challenges, emotional decisions and moral dilemmas.





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New Cast



Kofi

After his mother's death, Kofi grows up in a Hamburg group home. The emotional heart of the new Peppercorns, he's empathetic, intuitive, and quick to earn trust. A big brother to Piet and passionate cook, Kofi carries his past quietly.



Piet

At nine, Piet moves into the group home after his mother can no longer care for him. Guarded at first, he opens up with help from Kofi and Arne. When stray dog Bagel needs a home, Piet steps in. Street-smart and sharp, he's a key new Peppercorn.



Malin

Malin, 12, lives with her grandma Alva in HafenCity and shares her love of climbing. Fast, clever, and bold, she's a key Peppercorn. Honest and open, she likes girls and boys – and her nut allergy sometimes complicates things with friends.



Jules

The brains of the Peppercorns, Jules is sharp, logical, and top of his class. He's witty and self-aware but struggles with practical things and emotions that don't fit into charts, especially when it comes to his firefighter dad.



Taara

Taara may seem delicate, but she's tech-savvy, practical, and cool under pressure. School struggles next to her brilliant brother Jules have shaken her confidence but not her instincts. Even she's surprised when Kofi wins her heart.













Impressions...








Season 1 -
22
available
For more than 20 years, the Peppercorns have been
entertaining generations of viewers with a blend of
gripping crimes and current issues.

#PartnerUp





Kerstin Grünwald
Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy



Esther Henze
Spain, Portugal, LatAm



Stephanie Wang
French-Speaking Territories,
BeNeLux, Asia, Turkey, CEE/CIS



Olaf Wiehler
English-Speaking Territories,
Nordics, MENA

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