

***Comparative Christianity***  
***by***  
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***via***  
***Zoom 5:30 – 6:30 pm***



**Amish / Mennonite  
Differences**

April 27, 2022

## Difference between Amish and Mennonite

Almost all religion talks about a certain belief system and different practices to show how well it can bring the positivity in follower's life. Similarities do exist but dissimilarities are easy to mark.

[Amish](#) and *Mennonite* are two such Christian groups whose roots are the same but with time they got divided, changed, and developed different belief systems.

Both, Amish and Mennonite, belong to the Anabaptists group where their basis of belief system was in the simplicity of [faith](#) and their practices are retrieved from the Bible. And this base is still followed by them.

**The main difference between Amish and Mennonite is that Amish group was founded by Jakob Ammann, who believed that any kind of sin needs a serious punishment. Many people get attracted to this concept of Jacob Amann and started following it. Whereas, another group named as Mennonites followed the same old peaceful practices of Anabaptists.**

Amish

*Amish* follow traditional and very strict practices Anabaptists. They don't get involved with other people in the world and don't believe in technology adoption. They dress very plain traditional clothes and travel through buggies or scooters.

**Mennonites are known as a non-violent and flexible group of Anabaptists.** They [embrace](#) and adopt the latest technology in their daily life. They are involved more in missionary work to help deprived people and spread their belief & faith across the world.

Comparison Table Between Amish and Mennonite (in Tabular Form)

| Parameter of Comparison     | Amish   | Mennonite   |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| Followers                   | Anabaptists   | Anabaptists   |
| Founder                     | Jakob Ammann  | Frisian Menno Simons  |
| Type of Attire              | Plain Traditional Clothes.  | Normal Similar to Modern Look.  |
| Mode Of Transportation      | Scooters and Buggies i.e. a <a href="#">horse</a> -drawn vehicle.   | Modern Automobiles i.e. cars, buses, trains, etc.                                     |
| Language At Church Services | German or the regular dialect of German or Pennsylvania <a href="#">Dutch</a> .                             | English.  |
| Use of Technology           | Amish prohibit the use of modern technology in their life.  | Mennonites moderately use modern technology in day-to-day life.                       |
| Living                      | Simple and in groups i.e. close-knit communities, not like to a part of the other separate communities.     | Simple and they live as a part of the normal population. Not in separate communities. |
| Followers of                | Amish strictly follows the non-resistance. A person who doesn't follow church rules will be excommunicated. | Mennonites follow non-violence.   |
| Hold Church Services        | Privately at home.  | Always at Church.   |
| Dressing                    | 1) Women wear solid-color dresses.  | 1) Women wear flowered prints or plaid fabric.  |

| Parameter of Comparison | Amish                   | Mennonite                       |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
|                         | 2) Men have full beards | 2) Men don't have a full beard. |

What is Amish?

*Amish* belong to the North [American](#) Christian group, formerly belonged to the Anabaptists group. *Amish* group was founded by Jakob Ammann in the late 17th century.

Jakob Ammann was a reluctant and strong believer of excommunication i.e. if anybody doesn't follow the laid rules of religion and lie, he/she will be shunned from the community.

He was a non-resistance believer too but sturdily favored social shunning of people who are involved in any kind of wrongdoings.

***Amish* people live in close-knit communities that are separated from the mainstream world.** They follow very stringent customs, life, and [behavior](#) rules that are not specifically written but exist and known as Ordnung.

German or the regular dialect of German or Pennsylvania Dutch is the language used by *Amish* people for communication at church and English in daily life at home.

***Amish* people do the Church services at home within the closed community on a rotational basis.** They wear very plain clothes that are known as a nonconformist

lifestyle. Amish man has a full beard without mustaches and women wear solid-color dresses without any jewelry.

*Amish* group strictly prohibits the use of technology of any kind. And the mode of transportation is a horse-driven vehicle or scooter.

What is Mennonite?

***Mennonites'* group was a result of the 16th-century reformation movement that comes out from Anabaptists.** It was named after Frisian Menno Simons, a Dutch [priest](#), who tried to institutionalize the workings of moderate Anabaptist leaders.

*Mennonites'* belief and faith systems revolve around human betterment where they try to help the poor of any section. They live commonly among the normal population, not in close-knit communities.

**They believe in belongingness and are known as peacemakers.** The German language was used by them in the late 16th century but later they adopted English as their common communication language at home as well as at Church.

*Mennonites* gives more emphasis on one's pacifist and conscience to worship God. They believe that religion and the rest world should not be mixed and should be followed separately.

They follow rigorous religious practices and discipline in their group. They live a simple life with simple clothing but yes evolved with time and are involved in the advancements about education, social, and economical fronts.

*Mennonites* moderately use modern technology in day-to-day life. And also use automobiles for transportation.

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### **Main Differences Between Amish and Mennonite**

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To summarize, the main **difference between Amish and Mennonite** are,

1. *Amish* was founded by Jakob Ammann, whereas *Mennonites* founded by Frisian Menno Simons.
2. *Amish* live a very simple life, whereas *Mennonites* are little evolved to modern lifestyle.
3. The use of technology is strictly prohibited in the *Amish* community, whereas, *Mennonites* moderately use the technology in their daily life.
4. For *Amish*, the mode of transportation is a horse-driven vehicle or scooter, whereas *Mennonites* use the modern automobile for transportation.
5. *Amish* man has a full beard, whereas *Mennonite* men don't have a full beard.

7. *Amish* people live in close-knit communities and don't become part of the other population, whereas *Mennonite* lives as a part of the population not as separate communities.
8. *Amish* strictly follow the non-resistance, whereas *Mennonites* follow non-violence and are known as peacemakers.
9. *Amish* hold Church services at home, whereas *Mennonites* hold church services at church only.

<https://askanydifference.com/amish-vs-mennonite-with-table/>

<https://www.mennonitebrethren.ca/nflt-resources/anabaptism-the-basic-beliefs/>