

man

The indefinite pronoun *man* has many meanings.
Among them are: *they, you, one, people, somebody*, etc.

When used as a subject, *man* requires that the verb in German conjugate to third person singular.
(It's the same conjugation as with *er, sie, es*)
man glaubt, man sagt, man weiß (*people believe, they say, one knows*)

The word *man* is a pronoun and is never capitalized except at the beginning of a sentence.
It's important to distinguish the spelling and grammar of *man* from the noun *der Mann, the husband, the man*.

Read and contemplate the following examples with their translations:

Diese alten Häuser will **man** abreißen.
They want to tear down these old houses. (One wishes to tear down these old houses.)

Man trägt diese Farbe nicht mehr.
This color isn't worn anymore. People aren't wearing this color anymore. (One doesn't wear this color anymore.)

Man kann nie wissen.
You never know. (One can never know.)

Das tut **man** nicht.
That's not done. You shouldn't do that. (One doesn't do that.)

Man hat mir erklärt, dass ...
It was explained to me that ... Someone explained to me that ... (One explained to me that ...)

Man hat festgestellt, dass ...
It's been established that ... (One has established that ...)

Jetzt glaubt **man**, dass ...
People now believe that ... (One now believes that ...)

Man kennt mich dort.
I'm known there. People know me there. (One knows me there.)

Öfters versucht **man**, ...
Frequently people attempt ... Attempts are frequently made ... (Frequently one attempts ...)