


GERMANMIND'S
GERMAN GRAMMAR

BOOKLET





THIS GERMAN GRAMMAR BOOKLET IS DESIGNED FOR BEGINNER-LEVEL STUDENTS!

This comprehensive guide provides you with a solid understanding of the fundamental grammar topics necessary for learning German. The materials in this booklet are aligned with the content covered in our A1 course books, providing a structured and systematic approach to learning German grammar. Each topic is explained in a clear and concise manner, accompanied by examples and exercises to reinforce your understanding:

- Verb conjugation
- Sentence structure
- Use of particles like "ja", "nein", and "doch"
- Definite, indefinite, plural, and possessive articles
- Personal pronouns
- Singular and plural nouns
- The accusative case
- Modal verbs "können" (can, be able to) and "möchten" (would like)
- Prepositions "am", "um", "im", "von", "bis", and "ab"
- And much more...

Learning a new language requires dedication and practice, and this booklet is your valuable companion on your German language journey. It is designed to help you navigate through the complexities of grammar, enabling you to communicate effectively in German. Make the most of your language learning experience by immersing yourself in German culture, practicing with native speakers, and exploring additional resources to further enhance your skills.

**VIEL ERFOLG!
(BEST OF LUCK!)**

VERB CONJUGATION

REGULAR VERBS

A verb describes an action, occurrence, or state of being. **German verb conjugation** refers to changing the form of a verb to match the subject (e.g. a person). The ending of the verb changes depending on who is doing the action.

Konjugation Präsens: regelmäßige Verben L01/02			
	machen	arbeiten	heißen
ich	mache	arbeite	heiße
du	machst	arbeitest	heißt
er/sie	macht	arbeitet	heißt
wir	machen	arbeiten	heißen
ihr	macht	arbeitet	heißt
sie/Sie	machen	arbeiten	heißen

auch so: kommen, wohnen, leben ...

singen
stem (en)ending

Remove the **en ending**: stem (en)ending
sing **-en** and add the correct ending to the verb according to the person. Memorize these verb endings and practice using them with different subjects (ich, du, er, ...) in order to become comfortable with using verbs in German sentences.

	singen	(to)sing
ich	singe	I sing
du	singst	you sing
er, sie, es	singt	he, she, it sings
wir	singen	we sing
ihr	singt	you (all) sing
Sie, sie	singen	they sing

Quick Tip: Learn the verb endings by heart.

This verb is regular as the stem is NOT changing.

IRREGULAR VERBS

Conjugating **irregular verbs** is more complex. Pay attention to vowel changes in the stem of the verb, which can affect conjugation. "Sprechen" changes to "ich spreche" and "du sprichst"; the vowel changes from "e" to "i".

Quick Tip: Focus on the vowel change in the stem .

	sprechen
ich	spreche
du	sprichst
er/sie	spricht
wir	sprechen
ihr	sprecht
sie/Sie	sprechen

Konjugation Präsens: besondere Verben			
	haben	sein	mögen
ich	habe	bin	mag
du	hast	bist	magst
er/sie	hat	ist	mag
wir	haben	sind	mögen
ihr	habt	seid	mögt
sie/Sie	haben	sind	mögen

These verbs are irregular as the stem changes.

SENTENCE STRUCTURE I

Aussage L01	Position 2	
Ich	heiße	Paco.
Ich	komme	aus Österreich.
Mein Name	ist	Valerie.

The verb's position in a sentence is very important. Basic sentences or statements follow the subject-verb-object structure.

Ich wohne in Berlin. (I live in Berlin.)

W-Frage: wer, wie, woher L01	Position 2	
Wer	ist	das?
Wie	heißen	Sie?
Woher	kommst	du?

Questions with words like "wer" (who), "wie" (how), "woher" (where from) the verb comes second. **Wo wohnst du? (Where do you live?)**

Quick Tip: Basic sentences: subject - verb - object ...; questions: question word - verb - subject - ...

NEGATION

"**Nicht**" means "not" and is used to create negative sentences. Place "nicht" directly before the word you want to negate.

"Ich bin müde" means "I am tired"; "**Ich bin nicht müde**" means "I am not tired".

nicht L02
Wir leben nicht zusammen.
Sie wohnt nicht in Köln.

Quick Tip: "Nicht" is always placed directly before the word you want to negate.

WORD FORMATION

-in L02	
der Journalist	die Journalistin
der Arzt	die Ärztin

The name of the professions change depending on the gender of the person who holds them. If a man is a teacher, he would be called "der Lehrer," and if a woman is a teacher, she would be called "die Lehrerin." The ending "-in" is added to the noun for feminine professions. This applies to many professions in German.

Quick Tip: Add "-in" for the feminine profession and use the article "die".

PREPOSITIONS

Präposition als, bei, in L02	
als	Ich arbeite als Journalistin.
bei	Ich arbeite bei X-Media.
in	Ich lebe in Köln.

The word "**als**" can be used to indicate a profession. "**Bei**" can be used to talk about where someone works. To say "I work at GermanMind as a (female) German teacher", say "**Ich arbeite bei GermanMind als Deutschlehrerin.**"

"**In**" is used to talk about where someone lives. To say "I live in Dublin," you say "**Ich wohne in Dublin.**"

Quick Tip: "Als" indicates profession; "bei" indicates place of work; "in" indicates place of living

SENTENCE STRUCTURE II

Ja-/Nein-Frage, W-Frage und Aussage L03			
Ja-/Nein-Frage		Ist	das deine Frau?
W-Frage	Wer	ist	das?
Aussage	Das	ist	meine Frau.

Ja-Nein Fragen, also known as "yes-no questions", are used to ask for confirmation or clarification. They are formed by placing the verb at the beginning of the sentence, followed by the subject and then the rest of the sentence. **Spielst du Fußball? (Do you play soccer?)**

Quick Tip: Yes-no questions: verb - subject - ...

W-Fragen, also known as "question words", are used to ask for specific information about a subject or an object in a sentence. They are typically formed by placing the question word at the beginning of the sentence, followed by the verb and the subject and the rest of the sentence. **Wo wohnst du? (Where do you live?)** **Aussagesätze**, or statements, follow the subject-verb-object structure without any interrogative words. They make a statement or express a fact. **Ich wohne in Berlin. (I live in Berlin.)**

JA - NEIN - DOCH - PARTICLES

ja / nein / doch L03	
Ist das deine Frau?	Ja, (das ist meine Frau). Nein, (das ist nicht meine Frau).
Das ist nicht deine Frau?	Doch, (das ist meine Frau). Nein, (das ist nicht meine Frau).

Quick Tip: "Ja": used for confirmations; "Nein": used for negations; "Doch": used for contradiction of negative statements

"**Nein**" means "no" and is used to negate something or to give a negative answer to a question. Kannst du schwimmen? (Can you swim?) - **Nein**, ich kann nicht schwimmen. (No, I cannot swim.)

"**Doch**" is used to contradict a negative statement, to emphasize something that was previously stated, or to express surprise or disagreement. Du kannst nicht schwimmen, oder? (You can't swim, right?) - **Doch**, ich kann schwimmen. (Actually, I can swim.)

"**Ja**" means "yes" and is used to confirm something or to give a positive answer to a question. Hast du Hunger? (Are you hungry?) - **Ja**, ich habe Hunger. (Yes, I am hungry.)

POSSESSIVE ARTICLES

Possessivartikel mein/dein			
	maskulin	feminin	Plural
ich →	mein Bruder/Mann	meine Schwester/Frau	meine Eltern/Kinder
du →	dein Bruder/Mann	deine Schwester/Frau	deine Eltern/Kinder

Possessive Articles are used to indicate ownership or possession of something and agrees in gender, number, and case with the noun it is referring to.

masc.: Ist das **dein** Hund? (Is that your dog?)

neutr.: Das ist **mein** Buch. (This is my book.)

fem.: Kennst du **meine** Schwester? (Do you know my sister?)

pl.: Kennst du **meine** Schwestern? (Do you know my sisters?)

"Mein/meine" and "dein/deine" are declined to match the gender, number, and case of the noun they modify.

Quick Tip: Same endings as indefinite articles

DEFINITE ARTICLES AND PERSONAL PRONOUNS

definiter Artikel der/das/die und Personalpronomen er/es/sie L04			
Nominativ / Singular	definiter Artikel		Personalpronomen
• maskulin	Der Tisch	ist schön.	Er
• neutral	Das Bett		Es kostet 450 Euro.
• feminin	Die Lampe		Sie

	Articles	Pronouns
masc.	der	er
neutral	die	es
feminine	das	sie
plural	die	sie (pl)

Definite articles are used to refer to a specific person, thing, or concept, and are equivalent to the English word "the". The definite articles are: **der (masculine)**, **die (feminine)**, and **das (neuter)**.

Personal pronouns replace nouns in sentences and must match the gender and whether the noun is singular or plural.

Basic rules for using the definite articles in German:

- **Masculine nouns:** If a noun is masculine (e.g. der Mann - the man), use the definite article "der".
- **Feminine nouns:** If a noun is feminine (e.g. die Frau - the woman), use the definite article "die".
- **Neuter nouns:** If a noun is neuter (e.g. das Haus - the house), use the definite article "das".

It's important to note that the gender of a noun in German is not always predictable.

Quick Tip: Definite Articles in German are "der" (masculine), "die" (feminine), and "das" (neuter). You can replace them with "er," "sie," "es," and "sie" (plural) to refer to something specific.

INDEFINITE ARTICLES

indefiniter Artikel ein/eine und Negativartikel kein/keine L05		
	indefiniter Artikel	Negativartikel
	Das ist ...	
• maskulin	ein Schlüssel	kein Schlüssel
• neutral	ein Buch	kein Buch
• feminin	eine Brille	keine Brille.

	Definite articles	Indefinite articles
masc.	der	ein
neutral	die	ein
feminine	das	eine
plural	die	-- / keine

In German, there are three indefinite articles: ein (masculine and neuter), eine (feminine). Indefinite articles are used to refer to a non-specific person, thing, or concept, and are equivalent to the English word "a" or "an".

Basic rules for using the indefinite articles in German:

- **Masculine nouns:** If a noun is masculine (e.g. ein Mann - a man), then you use the indefinite article "ein".
- **Feminine nouns:** If a noun is feminine (e.g. eine Frau - a woman), then you use the indefinite article "eine".
- **Neuter nouns:** If a noun is neuter (e.g. ein Haus - a house), then you use the indefinite article "ein".

"Keine" is a word used to express negation or absence of something, and it is the negative form of "eine" (a/an) or "ein" (a/an) depending on the gender of the noun. **"Keine"** is used with feminine and plural nouns, while "kein" is used with masculine and neuter nouns.

Quick Tip: Indefinite Articles in German are "ein" (masculine and neuter) and "eine" (feminine). They refer to something non-specific.

PLURAL ARTICLES

Artikel im Singular und Plural L06		
	Singular	Plural
• maskulin	der/ein/kein Schlüssel	die/-/keine Schlüssel
• neutral	das/ein/kein Formular	die/-/keine Formulare
• feminin	die/eine/keine Briefmarke	die/-/keine Briefmarken

German has three ways to show **plurals**: die (the), keine (not any), and Nullartikel/no article.

- **"Die"** is used for all plural nouns regardless of the noun's gender. Ich mag die Nachbarn. (I like the neighbours.)
- **"Keine"** is used to show the negative form of a/an or any for plural nouns. Er isst keine Erdnüsse. (He doesn't eat peanuts.)
- **"Nullartikel"** is used for abstract and mass nouns. Hans liebt kleine Hunde. (Hans loves small dogs.)

Quick Tip: There are three different ways to show plurals: "die" (used for all plural nouns), "keine" (used in the negative form of "a/an" or "any"), and "Nullartikel" (used for abstract and mass nouns).

SINGULAR AND PLURAL

Nomen: Singular und Plural L06		
	Singular	Plural
-e/÷e	der Stift der Schrank	die Stifte die Schränke
-(e)n	die Briefmarke die Rechnung	die Briefmarken die Rechnungen
-s	das Sofa	die Sofas
-er/÷er	das Bild das Notizbuch	die Bilder die Notizbücher
-/÷	der Kalender	die Kalender

There are several different ways to form the plural, such as adding **"-e"** or **"-en"** to the end of the word, or using the **"-s"** or **"-er"** endings.

Some plural forms in German require an Umlaut, a change to the vowel sound, which can make the word sound quite different in the plural form.

Singular: das Buch (the book)
Plural: die Bücher (the books)

It's important to note that there are some irregular plural forms in German that don't follow these patterns; these will need to be learned individually.

Quick Tip: Memorize plural forms, including irregulars

GRAMMAR CASE: ACCUSATIVE

Akkusativ nach haben, brauchen, suchen, ... L06				
	definiter Artikel	indefiniter Artikel	Negativartikel	
• maskulin	Sie hat den	einen	keinen	Schlüssel.
• neutral	das	ein	kein	Formular.
• feminin	die	eine	keine	Briefmarke.
• Plural	die	-	keine	Stifte.

Articles in the Accusative

	NOM	ACC
masc.	der	den
neutral	die	die
feminine	das	das
plural	die	die

Only the masculine article changes.

The **accusative case** in German is used to indicate the direct object of a verb, the noun that is receiving the action of the verb. To indicate the accusative case, the masculine article "der" (masculine) changes to "den". The remaining articles don't change.

Verbs such as **"haben"** (to have), **"brauchen"** (to need), and **"kaufen"** (to buy) often take direct objects in the accusative case

- "Ich **habe** den Kaffee." (I have the coffee.)
- "Ich **brauche** den Stift." (I need the pen.)
- "Ich **kaufe** den Kuchen." (I buy a cake)

Quick Tip: Only the masculine article changes. der - den

Quick Tip: "Können" is used to express ability, possibility, and permission.



MODAL VERB: KÖNNEN (CAN, BE ABLE TO)

- "Können" is used to express what someone is able to do.
 - Ich kann Deutsch sprechen. (I can speak German.)
 - Kannst du schwimmen? (Can you swim?)
 - "Können" can also be used to express what is possible.
 - Es kann regnen heute. (It can rain today.)
 - Wir können ins Kino gehen. (We can go to the cinema.)
 - "Können" can be used to ask for permission to do something.
 - Kann ich bitte zur Toilette gehen? (Can I please go to the bathroom?)
 - Kann ich das Fenster öffnen? (Can I open the window?)
- "Können" has irregular conjugations in the present tense.

Modalverb können: Konjugation	
	können
ich	kann
du	kannst
er/sie	kann
wir	können
ihr	könnt
sie/Sie	können

Aussage	Du	kannst	wirklich super Gitarre	spielen.
Frage/Bitte		Kannst	du das noch einmal	sagen?

In a main clause, the modal verb "können" is positioned in the second position of the sentence, and it is conjugated according to the subject. The full verb then appears in the final position of the sentence in the infinitive form (unconjugated).

PREPOSITIONS "AM", "UM"

Quick Tip: "Am" + days of the week/dates, "um" + times.

"Am": In German, the preposition "am" is a contraction of the preposition "an" (meaning "on" or "at") and the definite article "dem" (in the dative case). It is specifically used to indicate specific days of the week or dates.

- Am** Montag gehe ich zum Deutschkurs. (On Monday, I'm going to the German class.)
- Ich treffe meine Freunde **am** 10. Mai. (I'm meeting my friends on May 10th.)

temporale Präpositionen am, um		
am	+ Wochentage/ Tageszeiten	am Dienstag / am Abend ! in der Nacht
um	+ Uhrzeiten	um drei Uhr

"Um": The preposition "um" is used to indicate specific times, such as hours or minutes. It is followed by the time in the 24-hour format (hour and minute).

- Ich stehe um 7 Uhr auf. (I wake up at 7 o'clock.)
- Der Zug fährt um 15:45 Uhr ab. (The train departs at 3:45 p.m.)

VERB POSITION

Quick Tip: The subject-verb-object structure is common in German, but be prepared for other flexible structures.

	Position 2	
Leider	habe	ich doch keine Zeit.
Ich	habe	leider doch keine Zeit.

In a simple German sentence, the verb usually comes second. The subject can be placed before or after the verb, depending on emphasis or information structure. The word order can vary in German, but the basic SVO (subject-verb-object) order is generally followed.

"Gestern habe ich Deutsch gelernt" and "Ich habe gestern Deutsch gelernt": The sentences demonstrate that, although the subject can be placed before or after the verb in German, the conjugated verb typically retains its position as the second element in a simple main sentence.

In the sentence "**Gestern habe ich Deutsch gelernt**" (Yesterday, I learned German), the verb "habe" (have) is in second position, the subject is on position three. The direct object "Deutsch" (German) appears after the verb.

It's important to remember that in German, the subject can be positioned before or after the verb, but the conjugated verb generally maintains its place in the second position in a simple main sentence.

In "**Ich habe gestern Deutsch gelernt**," the subject "Ich" is placed before the conjugated verb "habe" in the first position. The adverb of time "gestern" (yesterday) follows as additional information, while the main verb "gelernt" (learned) is placed at the end of the sentence.

MODAL VERB: MÖCHTEN (WOULD LIKE)

"Möchten" is the conditional form of the full verb "mögen" (to like).

- "Mögen" is a full verb used to express a general preference or liking for something. **Ich mag Schokolade.** (I like chocolate.)
- "Möchten" is a modal verb derived from "mögen" and requires another verb to show the action. It is used to make polite requests or express specific wishes. **Ich möchte ein Eis essen.** (I would like to eat an ice cream.)

Sentence structure with "möchten" : Subject + "möchte" + rest of the sentence + infinitive verb (full verb in the basic form)

- Ich möchte tanzen. (I would like to dance.)
- Er möchte Deutsch lernen. (He would like to learn German.)

	mögen	„möchte“
ich	mag	möchte
du	magst	möchtest
er/es/sie	mag	möchte
wir	mögen	möchten
ihr	mögt	möchtet
sie/Sie	mögen	möchten

„möchte“ im Satz			
Ich	möchte	etwas	essen.

Quick Tip: "Möchten" is used to express preference, politeness, and wishes.

WORD FORMATION

To create compound nouns like "Schokoladenkuchen" (chocolate cake), combine the base forms of the two nouns. The modifying noun (Schokolade) generally comes before the main noun (Kuchen) to indicate the type or quality of the object. The gender is dictated by the second noun.

Wortbildung: Nomen + Nomen		
der Schokoladenkuchen	die Schokolade	+ der Kuchen
die Fischsuppe	der Fisch	+ die Suppe

The linking element "n" or "s" is added based on the gender of the first noun: "n" for feminine or plural, "s" for masculine or neuter. Not every compound noun requires a linking element.

Quick Tip: Combine nouns; articles are determined by the last noun.

SEPARABLE VERBS

an rufen	→	Ich rufe dich an.
ein kaufen	→	Vielleicht kaufe ich noch was ein.

German separable verbs consist of a prefix and a main verb, with the prefix being separated from the main verb in certain sentence structures. These separable verbs are often used in everyday German language.

German separable verbs are verbs that are combined with a prefix to create a new meaning. The separable verb "anrufen" (to call) consists of the prefix "an" and the main verb "rufen" (to shout); the separable verb "aufstehen" (to get up), which is formed by the prefix "auf" and the main verb "stehen" (to stand). In English, it can be understood as "to get up" or "to rise." "Er steht um 7 Uhr auf" would be "He gets up at 7 o'clock."

trennbare Verben im Satz				
Aussage	Vielleicht	kaufe	ich noch etwas	ein.
W-Frage	Wann	rufst	du mich	an?
Ja-/Nein-Frage		Rufst	du mich heute	an?

To use separable verbs in German sentences:

Aussage/Statement: Verb in position 2, and prefix at the end. Ich stehe um 7 Uhr auf. (I get up at 7 am.)

W-Frage/Question with question word: Question word, verb in position 2, and prefix at the end. Wann stehst du morgen auf? (When do you get up tomorrow?)

Ja-/Nein-Frage/Yes/No question: Verb in position 1, and prefix at the end. Stellst du die Musik an? (Do you turn on the music?)

Quick Tip: Keep the prefix and main verb separated in the sentence; the prefix is placed at the end of the sentence.

PREPOSITIONS "VON", "BIS", "AB"

The prepositions "von" and "bis" are used to indicate a range of time. The preposition "ab" is used to express starting from a particular time.

"Von ... bis ..." (From ... to/until ...): Start the sentence with "Von" followed by a specific starting time or date. Use "bis" followed by the ending time or date. "Mein Deutschkurs findet von 9 Uhr bis 10 Uhr statt." (My German course takes place from 9 am to 10 am.)

"Ab ..." (From ... onwards): "Ab" is used followed by a specific starting time or date. "Ab 9 Uhr bin ich in meinem Deutschkurs." (From 9 am (onwards) I'm in my German class.)

temporale Präpositionen von ... bis, ab	
Wann?	Von 9 Uhr bis 10 Uhr
X	→ X
	Ab 9 Uhr
X	→ X
jetzt	9 Uhr

**Quick Tip: "Von" (+ specific starting time or date) "bis" (+ ending time or date) -> from...to...
"Ab" (+ specific starting time or date) -> from...onwards**

PRESENT PERFECT

German present perfect (Das Perfekt) is used to talk about past actions with a connection to the present. It is formed with "**haben**" (to have) or "**sein**" (to be) + past participle.

Perfekt mit haben				
Verb		haben +	Partizip ...t/-en	
regelmäßig	machen	er/sie hat	gemacht	auch so: sagen – gesagt, arbeiten – gearbeitet, ...
unregelmäßig	schreiben	er/sie hat	geschrieben	auch so: essen – gegessen, trinken – getrunken, ...
trennbar	aufräumen	er/sie hat	aufgeräumt	auch so: einkaufen – eingekauft, ...
	anrufen	er/sie hat	angerufen	auch so: einladen – eingeladen, fernsehen – ferngesehen, ...
Verben auf -ieren	telefonieren	er/sie hat	telefoniert	auch so: fotografieren – fotografiert, ...

The German present perfect is used more frequently than the English present perfect, especially in spoken language. Both tenses convey past actions relevant to the present, but German often indicates completed actions.

"Haben" is generally used with most verbs in German, while "sein" is used with certain verbs of motion, direction or change. To form the past participle, the ge- prefix is usually added to the verb. Regular verbs add "-t" or "-et" to the verb stem, while irregular verbs have their own unique forms, often ending in "-en". Irregular verbs have unique past participle forms that need to be memorized individually.

"Ich habe gegessen" (I have eaten), "gegessen" is the past participle of the verb "essen" (to eat). It functions as part of the verb phrase to indicate a completed action in the present perfect tense.

To use the German present perfect tense with the auxiliary verb "**haben**" (to have), follow this structure:
Subject + haben + other elements + past participle

Perfekt im Satz				
Aussage	Ab 9 Uhr	habe	ich	gearbeitet.
W-Frage	Was	hast	du sonst noch	gemacht?
Ja-/Nein-Frage		Hast	du Frau Dr. Weber	angerufen?

1. Ich habe das Buch gelesen. (I have read the book.)
2. Du hast den Film gesehen. (You have seen the movie.)
3. Er hat gestern Fußball gespielt. (He has played soccer yesterday.)
4. Wir haben Pizza bestellt. (We have ordered pizza.)
5. Ihr habt eure Hausaufgaben gemacht. (You all have done your homework.)
6. Sie haben das Konzert genossen. (They have enjoyed the concert.)

Quick Tip: Use "haben" or "sein" + past participle and learn the past participles by heart.

To use the German present perfect tense with the auxiliary verb "sein" (to be), follow this structure:

For **irregular verbs**, the past participle forms need to be memorized individually. "Ich bin **eingeschlafen.**" (I have fallen asleep). "Eingeschlafen" is the past participle of the irregular verb "einschlafen" (to fall asleep).

Separable verbs remain one word with the "ge" prefix positioned between the prefix of the verb and its stem.

Ich bin um 15 Uhr **angekommen.** I arrived at 3 pm.)

Perfekt mit sein			
Verben		sein +	Partizip ...-en
unregelmäßig	gehen	er/sie ist	gegangen
	fliegen		geflogen
	fahren		gefahren
	kommen		gekommen
...			
trennbar	ankommen	er/sie ist	angekommen
	einsteigen		eingestiegen
	abfahren		abgefahren

In the present perfect, the conjugated form of "sein" and the past participle are placed in the usual word order. "Wir sind weggegangen." (We have left) "Weggegangen" is the past participle of the separable verb "weggehen" (to leave).

PREPOSITION "IM"

The temporale preposition "im" in German is used to indicate a specific point in time, usually referring to a month or a season.

temporale Präposition im

im + Monat/Jahreszeiten: **im** Oktober/Herbst

It is a contraction of the preposition "in" and the definite article "dem" (in + dem = im).

When referring to a specific month: "Wir treffen uns im März." (We will meet in March.)

When referring to a season: "Im Sommer gehe ich gerne schwimmen." (I like to go swimming in summer.)

"Im" is followed by the specific time period (month or season) to indicate when an action takes place, and is used with masculine and neuter nouns, whereas "in der" is used with feminine nouns. For example, "in der Woche" (during the week) or "im Jahr" (during the year).

Quick Tip: Use "im" for specific points in time, like months or seasons, with masculine and neuter nouns in German. Use "in der" for feminine nouns.

LOCAL PREPOSITIONS + DATIVE

Local prepositions in German can refer to a place or movement. When a sentence answers the question "Where...?" the following preposition requires the dative case.

"Der Garten ist **vor** dem Haus" (The garden is in front of the house).

Quick Tip: When a sentence answers the question "Wo?" (Where?), local prepositions in German typically require the dative case.

auch so: auf, an, vor, hinter, zwischen, über, unter, in
! in dem = **im** an dem = **am**

Wo? → Lokale Präpositionen mit Dativ			
Nominativ		Dativ	
Da ist ...	Wo ist das Hotel? Es ist ...	definiter Artikel	indefiniter Artikel
• der/ein Dom.	neben	dem Dom.	einem Dom.
• das/ein Café.	neben	dem Café.	einem Café.
• die/eine Post.	neben	der Post.	einer Post.
Da sind ...			
• die / - Banken/Häuser.	neben	den Banken/Häusern.	- Banken/Häusern.

POSSESSIVE ARTICLES "SEIN" / "IHR"

Possessive articles like "sein" (his) and "ihr" (her) indicate ownership or possession and agree in gender, number, and case with the noun they refer to.

sein:

- Ist das **sein** Hund? (Is that his dog?)
- Kennst du **seine** Schwester? (Do you know his sister?)

ihr:

- Ist das **ihr** Hund? (Is that her dog?)
- Das ist **ihr** Buch. (This is her book.)

Possessivartikel sein/ihr					
	Nominativ		Akkusativ		
	Da ist ...		Ich mag ...		
• Garten	sein	ihr	seinen	ihren	Garten.
• Haus	sein	ihr	sein	ihr	Haus.
• Küche	seine	ihre	seine	ihre	Küche.
	Da sind ...		Ich mag ...		
• Kinder	seine	ihre	seine	ihre	Kinder.

auch so bei: finden, ...

Quick Tip: Keep in mind the gender, number, and case of the noun when using possessive articles.

GENITIVE CASE - PROPER NOUNS

The genitive case can be used to indicate ownership. You can combine two nouns in the genitive case, known as the genitive attribute, to clarify the owner of something. When the genitive attribute is a proper noun, it usually precedes the other noun and is marked by the suffix -s.

Genitiv bei Eigennamen	
Ottos Nachbarin	= die Nachbarin von Otto
Vanillas Garten	= der Garten von Vanilla

- Das ist **Sandras** Katze. (This is Sandra's cat.)

For proper nouns ending in an s sound (-s, -ß, -z, or -x), an apostrophe is used instead of adding the -s ending.

- Das ist **Max'** Katze. (This is Max's cat.)

Quick Tip: Express ownership by adding the suffix -s to a noun.

DATIVE VERBS

Certain German verbs require the complement (e.g., a noun) to be in a specific case.

Let's consider the verb "helfen":

- Correct: Ich helfe meiner Schwester. (dative) (I am helping my sister.)
- Incorrect: Ich helfe meine Schwester. (accusative)

Verben mit Dativ		
Das	gehört	mir.
Das	gefällt	dir.
Das	hilft	ihm.
Ich	danke	ihr.

Other examples of such verbs include: antworten, glauben, gratulieren, gelingen, danken, schmecken, absagen, gefallen, vertrauen, gehören, begegnen, zustimmen, folgen, sich nähern, schreiben, sich anpassen, beibringen, mitteilen, wehtun, zuhören, zustimmen...

With these verbs, it is important to use the appropriate case for the complement to ensure grammatical correctness.

Quick Tip: Learn which verbs are followed by the dative case.

PERSONAL PRONOUNS - DATIVE

Personalpronomen im Dativ	
Nominativ	Dativ
ich	mir
du	dir
er/es	ihm
sie	ihr
wir	uns
ihr	euch
sie/Sie	ihnen/Ihnen

Personal pronouns can appear not only in the nominative case but also in other cases. Specific prepositions or verbs demand the dative case, while others require the accusative.

- Nominative: Vermisst **du** deutsches Essen? (Do you miss German food?)
- Accusative: Wir haben für **dich** gekocht. (We cooked for you.)
- Dative: Schmeckt **dir** das Essen? (Do you like the food?)

Quick Tip: Memorize the pronouns for different cases and pay attention to the person.

TEMPORAL PREPOSITIONS "VOR," "NACH," AND "IN"

temporale Präpositionen vor, nach, in + Dativ			
	Wann?		
•	vor/nach/in	einem	Monat
•		einem	Jahr
•		einer	Stunde
•		zwei	Wochen

Temporal prepositions are used to indicate a point in time (when?) or a duration (how long).

Prepositions "vor," "nach," and "in" require the dative case:

- **Vor** dem Frühstück spaziere ich mit meinem Hund. (Before breakfast, I walk my dog.)
- **Nach** der Arbeit gehen wir ins Kino. (After work, we go to the cinema.)
- **In** 2 Tagen beginnt das Festival. (The festival starts in 2 days.)

The preposition "Für" requires the accusative case:

- **Für** eine Stunde bin ich nicht erreichbar. (I won't be available for an hour.)

Quick Tip: Use "vor," "nach," and "in" with the dative case and "für" with the accusative.

temporale Präposition für + Akkusativ			
	(Für) Wie lange?		
•	für	einen	Tag
•		ein	Jahr
•		eine	Woche
•		zwei	Wochen

PREPOSITIONS "MIT" / "OHNE"

Präpositionen mit und ohne

ohne	+ Akkusativ	ohne das/mein Handy
mit	+ Dativ	mit dem/meinem Handy

When using the prepositions "mit" and "ohne," it is crucial to recall the case they govern.

- **"Mit"** is used with the dative case: Sie fährt **mit** dem Bus nach Hause. (She takes the bus home.)
- **"Ohne"** is used with the accusative case: **Ohne** dich habe ich keine Lust zu gehen. (I don't feel like going without you.)

Quick Tip: Use "mit" with the dative case and "ohne" with the accusative.

MODAL VERB "WOLLEN"

Modalverb wollen

ich	will
du	willst
er/es/sie	will
wir	wollen
ihr	wollt
sie/Sie	wollen

The modal verb "wollen" indicates a strong desire or intention: Ich möchte auf das Konzert gehen. (I want to go to the concert.)

When used with a negation, the modal verb "wollen" expresses refusal: Ich **will** nicht in die Schule gehen. (I don't want to go to school.)

Note that "wollen" has irregular conjugations in the present tense.

Modalverben im Satz

Ich **will** Liedermacher werden.

The modal verb "wollen" is positioned in the second position of the sentence, the full verb is placed at the end of the sentence.

Quick Tip: "Wollen" expresses strong desires and refusals. Its present tense conjugation is irregular.

IMPERATIVE - FORMAL "SIE"

The imperative in German, which is the request or command form, is used much more frequently compared to many other languages. To form the imperative for the formal "Sie" form, we use the verb in its infinitive form followed by "Sie." However, for the verb "sein" (to be), we add an additional "e."

- **Laufen** Sie! (Walk!)
- **Seien** Sie pünktlich! (Be punctual!)

Imperativ (Sie)

Trinken Sie viel!

Gehen Sie zum Arzt!

Quick Tip: Form the imperative for "Sie" using the verb in the infinitive + "Sie."

MODAL VERB "SOLLEN"

The verb "sollen" is employed to give an order to the subject.

Die Kinder sollen die Hausaufgaben machen. (The children are supposed to do homework.)

"Sollen" is used to provide a recommendation or advice in the subjunctive 2 form. Du **solltest** dein Zimmer aufräumen. (You should clean your room.)

"Sollen" is used to convey an indirect prompt where someone else gave the order. Du **sollst** den Müll rausbringen. (You are supposed to take out the garbage.)

The modal verb "sollen" is positioned in the second position of the sentence, the full verb is placed at the end of the sentence.

Modalverb sollen

ich	soll
du	sollst
er/es/sie	soll
wir	sollen
ihr	sollt
sie/Sie	sollen

Modalverben im Satz

Du **sollst** diesen Tee **trinken**.

Quick Tip: "Sollen" expresses orders, recommendations, guesses, and indirect prompts.

SIMPLE PAST "WAR" / "HATTE,"

The past tense is a verb form utilized to indicate events or actions that happened in the past. While it is primarily employed in written language like newspaper articles and literature, the past tense of "to be," "to have," and modal verbs is also used in spoken language.

Examples:

- Nico hatte viel Arbeit. (Nico had a lot of work.)
- Lisa war zu spät. (Lisa was too late.)

Quick Tip: The simple past is used to express the past, primarily in written language..

Präteritum: sein und haben

	Präsens	Präteritum	Präsens	Präteritum
ich	bin	war	habe	hatte
du	bist	warst	hast	hattest
er/es/sie	ist	war	hat	hatte
wir	sind	waren	haben	hatten
ihr	seid	wart	habt	hattet
sie/Sie	sind	waren	haben	hatten

PRESENT PERFECT INSEPARABLE VERBS

Inseparable verbs are distinguished by specific prefixes, such as be-, emp-, ent-, er-, ge-, miss-, ver-, and zer-. These prefixes remain permanently attached to the verb: Ich bestehe die Prüfung. (I pass the exam.)

For non-separable verbs, we form the Participle II without the ge- prefix: Ich habe die Prüfung **bestanden**. (I passed the exam.)

Quick Tip: Recognize inseparable verbs by certain prefixes and learn them.

Perfekt: nicht trennbare Verben

Infinitiv	Präsens (heute)	Perfekt (früher)
		haben + be/ge/ver...en/t
erkennen	er/sie erkennt	er/sie hat erkannt
bekommen	er/sie bekommt	er/sie hat bekommen
auch so: gefallen – gefallen, vergessen – vergessen, entschuldigen – entschuldigt, beschweren – beschwert		
auch so nach: ent-, emp-, miss-, zer-		

WORD FORMATION WITH THE PREFIX "UN-"

Adjectives with the prefix "un-" are employed to describe someone who lacks a particular trait or is not something. When negating an adjective, the prefix "un-" is often used.

- Ehrlich – unehrlich (honest – dishonest)
- Sportlich – unsportlich (sporting – unsporting)

However, it's essential to note that not all adjectives can be negated with the prefix "un-".

Wortbildung: Adjektive mit un-

☺ sympathisch ↔ ☹ unsympathisch

Quick Tip: Use adjectives with the prefix "un-" when indicating negation or absence of certain traits.

IMPERATIVE "DU" / "IHR"

The imperative with "du" and "ihr" follows the same rules as the imperative with "Sie" in terms of usage. However, the formation differs.

For "du" (sing. du): The imperative is formed by removing the -en ending from the infinitive verb.

- **Lauf!** (Run!)
- **Sei** pünktlich! (Be punctual!)

For "ihr" (pl. du): The imperative is derived from the 2nd person plural verb form, but without the pronoun.

- **Lauft!** (Run!)
- **Seid** pünktlich! (Be punctual!)

Quick Tip: Form the imperative for "du" by removing the -en ending from the infinitive. For "ihr," use the verb form of the 2nd person plural without the pronoun.

Imperativ (du / ihr)		
	du	ihr
decken	Deck ...!	Deckt ...!
schlafen	Schlaf ...!	Schlaft ...!
vergessen	Vergiss ...!	Vergesst ...!
aufräumen	Räum ... aus!	Räumt ... aus!
! sein	Sei ...!	Seid ...!
! haben	Hab ...!	Habt ...!

PERSONAL PRONOUNS IN THE ACCUSATIVE

Personal pronouns can be found not only in the nominative case but also in other cases. Specific prepositions or verbs necessitate the use of the dative case, while others require the accusative case.

- Ich rufe **dich** an. (I call you.)
- Ich rufe **ihn** an. (I call him.)

Quick Tip: Learn the pronouns for different cases and pay attention to the person.

Personalpronomen im Akkusativ	
Nominativ	Akkusativ
ich	mich
du	dich
er/es/sie	ihn/es/sie
wir	uns
ihr	euch
sie/Sie	sie/Sie

Ich komme um 10 Uhr an. Holst du **mich** bitte ab?

MODAL VERBS "DÜRFEN" / "MÜSSEN"

The modal verb "**dürfen**" is used to indicate whether someone has permission to do something. Du darfst Hans besuchen. (You are allowed to visit Hans.)

"**Dürfen**" is frequently used in polite questions. Darf ich dir etwas zu trinken bringen? (May I get you something to drink?)

When combined with "dürfen" and "nicht," it expresses that doing something is forbidden: Du darfst Lisa nicht besuchen. (You are not allowed to visit Lisa.)

"**Müssen**": The modal verb "müssen" is employed to convey that something is important or necessary. Du musst deine Hausaufgaben machen. (You must do your homework.)

Modalverben dürfen und müssen		
	dürfen	müssen
ich	darf	musst
du	darfst	musst
er/es/sie	darf	musst
wir	dürfen	müssen
ihr	dürft	müsst
sie/Sie	dürfen	müssen

Modalverben im Satz		
Man muß in der Bibliothek leise	sein.	
Man darf im Bus nicht	essen.	

The modal verb "sollen" is positioned in the second position of the sentence, the full verb is placed at the end of the sentence.

Quick Tip: "Dürfen" expresses permission, polite questions, and negation of permission. "Müssen" is used to indicate importance or necessity.

COMPARATIVE

Numerous adjectives can take on comparative or superlative forms, resulting in three types: positive, comparative, and superlative.

The comparative is formed by adding the suffix -er, while the superlative uses -st or -est. In some cases, certain adjectives experience an umlaut change, like **alt - älter - am ältesten**.

When attaching the -er comparative ending to an adjective with an unstressed word ending in -el, -er, or -en, an unstressed -e may be dropped, as seen in **edel - edler - am edelsten**.

Komparation: andere Adjektive			
Positiv	Komparativ	Superlativ	
+	++ + -er	+++ am ...-(e)sten	
lustig	lustiger	am lustigsten	
alt	älter	am ältesten	-d/-t/ -s/-z: + esten
groß	größer	am größten	
klug	klüger	am klügsten	

Quick Tip: Form the comparative with the suffix -er and the superlative with -st or -est.

It is important to note that some adjectives are irregular, and others lack a comparative or superlative form altogether.

oft bei einsilbigen Adjektiven:

a → ä: alt älter am ältesten
o → ö: groß größer am größten
u → ü: kurz kürzer am kürzesten

Komparation: gut, gern, viel

Positiv	Komparativ	Superlativ
+	++	+++
gut	besser	am besten
gern	lieber	am liebsten
viel	mehr	am meisten

COMPARISON

To indicate that two living beings or things possess the same trait, you can use "(genau) so + basic form of the adjective + wie": Hans kocht (genau) **so** gut **wie** Heidi. (Hans cooks (just) as well as Heidi.)
When two creatures or things differ in a certain trait, you should use the comparative form + "als":
Klaus kocht besser **als** Paul. (Klaus cooks better than Paul.)

Vergleiche: als, wie

Lila (+) mag sie genauso gern wie Rosa (+).
Das Hemd (++) gefällt ihr besser als die Hose (+).

Quick Tip: Use "(genau) so" + basic form of the adjective + "wie" to indicate equality and the comparative + "als" to show differences.

WORD FORMATION "-LOS"

Adjectives ending in "-los" are employed to describe someone who lacks a particular trait or does not possess something.
When the adjective is derived from a noun (for example, the feeling), it is common to use the -los ending.

Wortbildung: Adjektive mit -los

Nomen + -los	Nomen	Adjektiv
	die Wolken	wolkenlos (= ohne Wolken)

- **gefühlvoll** - **gefühllos** (sentimental - emotionless)
- **verständnisvoll** - **verständnislos** (sympathetic - unsympathetic)

Quick Tip: Use adjectives with the suffix -los to indicate absence or negation of certain traits.

CONJUNCTION "DENN"

The question "Warum?" (Why?) can be answered in two ways: either with "weil" + a subordinate clause (conjugated verb at the end), or with "**denn**" + a main clause (conjugated verb in the second position, subject, ...).

Quick Tip: The question "Warum?" (Why?) can be answered with either "weil" or "denn."

Konjunktion denn

Es war wunderbar, denn wir hatten ein Traumwetter.

Compare the following examples:

- Nico möchte nicht studieren, weil er lieber arbeiten möchte. (Nico doesn't want to study because he would rather work.)
- Nico möchte nicht studieren, **denn er möchte lieber arbeiten.** (Nico doesn't want to study because he would rather work.)

It's important to note that a main clause with "denn" is never placed at the beginning of the complete sentence:

- Ich lerne Deutsch, **denn ich will in Berlin studieren.** (I'm learning German because I want to study in Berlin.)

SUBJUNCTIVE II "WÜRDE"

The Subjunctive II, also known as the possibility form, is used to express assumptions, unreal situations, and things that are not currently possible. It is commonly used when imagining, wishing for, or making polite requests, suggestions, or advice.

The Indicative, on the other hand, describes the real world, portraying events that genuinely occur.

- Indicative: Ich gehe gerne mit euch ins Freibad. (I love going to the pool with you.)
- Subjunctive II: Ich **würde** gerne mit euch ins Freibad gehen. (I would love to go to the pool with you.)

Wünsche: Konjunktiv II

ich	würde	
du	würdest	
er/es/sie	würde	gern mit dir feiern
wir	würden	
ihr	würdet	
sie/Sie	würden	

Quick Tip: The subjunctive II is used to describe unreal situations, wishes, and dreams.

ORDINAL NUMBERS

Ordinal numbers are used for dates, titles (e.g., of kings), enumerations, or sequences. They are declined, and their endings correspond to the adjective endings, depending on the article and gender of the noun. Ordinal numbers in German are written with a period: **1. Oktober** (1st October)

Ordinal numbers from 1 to 19 are formed by adding the suffix **"-te"** to the number word, with the exceptions of "eins," "drei," "sieben," and "acht."

- Die **erste**, **zweite** Klasse (The first, second class)
- Der **siebte**, **achte** Tag (The seventh, eighth day)

Ordinal numbers from 20 upwards are formed by adding the suffix **"-ste"** to the basic numbers, with no exceptions to this rule.

- Die **zwanzigste** Etage (The twentieth floor)
- Der **einundzwanzigste** Stock (The twenty-first floor)

Ordinalzahlen: Datum	
Heute ist der achte Januar .	
1.-19.: + -te:	ab 20.: + -ste:
der erste	der zwanzigste
der zweite	der einundzwanzigste
der dritte	...
der vierte	
der fünfte	
der sechste	
der siebte	
der achte	
der neunte	
...	

Quick Tip: Use ordinal numbers for dates, titles, enumerations, or sequences. Remember to write them with a period.

QUESTION WORD "WANN"

"Wann" is used to ask questions about time or specific points in time. It is equivalent to the English word "when."

Here are a few examples of how to use "wann" in German:

1. **Wann** kommst du? (When are you coming?)
2. **Wann** fängt der Film an? (When does the movie start?)
3. Weißt du, **wann** der Zug abfährt? (Do you know when the train departs?)

"Wann" is typically used at the beginning of a question, just like "when" in English.

Wann?
Am achten Januar.
Vom achten bis (zum) achtzehnten Januar.

Quick Tip: Wann" is used to ask questions about time or specific points in time.