

BARCHARTS' ACADEMIC OUTLINE

Quick Study German Grammar

Summary of German Grammar

THE GERMAN ALPHABET

There are twenty-seven letters in the German alphabet.

A	ah	O	o
B	by	P	py
C	ky	Q	kyo
D	dy	R	ry
E	eh	S	sh
F	fft	T	ty
G	gy	U	oo
H	ah	V	vy
I	ee	W	vy
J	ihle	X	ihla
K	kah	Y	yap-ah-lee
L	ll	Z	zht
M	mayn		
N	nohn		

There are three "umlauts" in German: \ddot{a} , \ddot{o} , \ddot{u} .

NUMERALS

1	null
2	zwei
3	drei
4	vier
5	fünf
6	sechs
7	seven
8	acht
9	neun
10	zehn
11	elf
12	zwölf
13	dreizehn
14	vierzehn
15	fünfzehn
16	sechzehn
17	siebzehn
18	achtzehn
19	neunzehn

CARDINALS

20	zwanzig
21	einundzwanzig
32	zweiundzwanzig
33	dreiundzwanzig
34	vierundzwanzig
40	vierzig
50	fünfzig
60	sechzig
70	achtzig
80	neunzig
90	hundert
100	hundert
200	zweihundert
300	dreihundert
400	vierhundert
1000	tausend
2000	zweitausend
1 000 000	eine Million
2 000 000	zwei Millionen

ORDINALS

1 st	erste
2 nd	zweite
3 rd	dritte
4 th	vierte
5 th	fünfte
6 th	sechste
7 th	siebte
8 th	achte
9 th	neunte
10 th	zehnte
11 th	elfte
12 th	zwölfte
13 th	dreizehnte
14 th	vierzehnte
15 th	fünfzehnte

The numeral *zehn* drops the 'n' whenever used as an ordinal (the article *zweizehn* can't be used, but *zwei* and *zehn*).

CAPITALIZATION

All nouns are capitalized, wherever they appear in a sentence.

Adjectives denoting nationality are **not** capitalized: *amerikanisch* - American, *deutsch* - German.

Unlike English, the personal pronoun "I" (*ich*) is **not** capitalized in written German.

The personal pronoun "she" (*sie*), formal, 3rd person, however, is capitalized.

CASE SYSTEM

The four cases of the system define the function of a particular noun in a sentence: **Nominative** - subject, **accusative** - predicate, **dative** - indirect object, **genitive** - about what. Nouns and their articles, adjectives, prepositions and the usage of some verbs are based in the case system and its endings.

NOUNS

GENDER

All German nouns, whether they represent persons, things, or ideas, have grammatical gender. When referring to people, the grammatical gender usually follows the biological sex, all other nouns can be any of the three genders. The gender is indicated by the definite article (*der*, *die*, *das*).

The following types of nouns are usually feminine:

- Words referring to female beings, their nationalities and their professions: *die Frau* - the woman, *die Christin* - the Christian, *die Studentin* - the Spanish woman.
- Agent nouns formed by adding the feminine suffix *-in* to masculine agent nouns: *die Professorin* - the professor, *die Biologin* - the biologist, *die Krankenschwester* - the nurse.
- Most nouns ending with the letter *-e*: *die Kranke* - the patient, *die Maschine* - the machine, *die Kammer* - the chamber.
- Nouns of many Germanic roots: *die Hand* - the hand, *die Hand* - the hand, *die Hand* - the hand.
- Nouns ending with the suffixes *-heit*, *-keit*, *-lich*, *-schaft*, *-ung*, *-um*, *-en*, *-nis*, *-el*, and *-ese*: *die Revolution* - the revolution, *die Prozedur* - the procedure, *die Sicherheit* - the security, *die Demokratie* - the democracy, *die Sauberkeit* - the cleanliness, *die Musik* - the music, *die Gewerkschaft* - the union, *die Konsequenz* - the consequence, *die Universität* - the university, *die Bläse* - the bladder, *die Übung* - the exercise, *die Infanterie* - the infantry.

The following nouns are usually masculine:

- Words referring to male beings, their nationalities and their professions: *der Mann* - the man, *der Christ* - the Christian.

PLURAL

The article for all nouns used in the plural is *die*. Each gender follows different rules on how to make the plural form.

Most nouns usually add *-en* or *-n*: *die Frau* - the woman (the women), *die Hand* - the hand (the hands).

Abstract and agent nouns ending in *-en* add an *Umlaut* in German.

PRONOUNS

PERSONAL PRONOUNS

Nominative:		
Singular:	ich	Er/Sie
Plural:	wir	er/sie
2 nd person:	du	Sie
3 rd person:	er/sie	Sie
4 th person:	es	

Masculine, feminine, and neuter nouns can be replaced by the personal pronouns *er*, *sie*, or *es*.

Der Tisch ist groß. (The table is big.)
Es ist groß. (It is big.)
Die Lampe ist hell. (The lamp is bright.)
Sie ist hell. (She is bright.)
Das Fenster ist sauber. (The window is clean.)
Es ist sauber. (It is clean.)

Genitive:		
Singular:	ich	dein
Plural:	wir	euer
2 nd person:	du	dein
3 rd person:	er/sie	sein
4 th person:	es	sein

The absolute genitive pronouns are extremely rarely used in German.

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Riddled with errors

By Amazon Customer

Unfortunately, this German grammar cheat sheet... is full of grammatical errors. In the charts of nouns, adjectives and verbs, some forms are missing their correct endings ("mein", for example, is missing the nom. fem. sg. ending); other information is wrong or at least highly misleading (the chart of cardinal numbers is broken into two color-coded sections, "Numerals" and "Cardinals", as though these were separate things; it claims that only regular verbs have a present tense, etc.) It doesn't give the plural forms for ein-adjectives. I've spotted enough mistakes after a few days of use that there's no way I'm trusting this, or anything else from the same company. I mean, seriously. You had one job, BarCharts.

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These are a big help in German class

By TurquoiseEyes

Not a whole lot to review here, what you see is what you get. Even in this day & age, having a quick reference guide like this is invaluable for writing papers, reviewing vocabulary & dealing with the oft-dreaded feminine/masculine/neutral distinction assigned in German which is not assigned to words in the English language. I wish I'd had these back when I was studying in middle & high school- I would've retained my German studies better (this was back in pre-Internet days). I'm now a late-to-the-game college student and need all the help I can get! I've found this sheet to be consistently accurate & easy-to-comprehend.

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful.

not for beginners

By P. A. Dufour

If you have no background in German grammar then this chart is useless to you. It is confusing to follow and doesn't explain basic grammar. Not what I expected.

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