**Gender: Masculine and Feminine Nouns**

**Grammatical gender**

**Grammatical gender** is a system of [noun](http://www.myenglishpages.com/site_php_files/grammar-lesson-noun.php) classification. A common gender classification includes masculine and feminine categories. Masculine nouns are words for men, boys and male animals. Feminine nouns are words for women, girls and female animals.

**Masculine and feminine nouns**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Masculine** | **Feminine** |
| actor | actress | host | hostess |
| author | authoress | husband | wife |
| bachelor | spinster | king | queen |
| boy | girl | man | woman |
| bridegroom | bride | master | mistress |
| brother | sister | murderer | murderess |
| conductor | conductress | nephew | niece |
| count | countess | poet | poetess |
| czar | czarina | policeman | policewoman |
| dad | mum | prince | princess |
| daddy | mummy | sir | madam |
| duke | duchess | son | daughter |
| man | woman | uncle | aunt |
| emperor | empress | wizard | witch |
| father | mother | waiter | waitress |
| god | goddess |
| grandfather | grandmother |
| heir | heiress |
| hero | heroine |

**Common gender nouns**

Some nouns are used for both males and females. These nouns are referred to as common gender nouns.

**Examples**

* baby,
* bird,
* cat,
* cattle,
* child,
* companion,
* comrade,
* cousin,
* dancer,
* deer,
* friend,
* guardian,
* guest,
* infant,
* owner,
* parent,
* passenger,
* pig,
* president,
* pupil,
* relative,
* sheep,
* singer,
* student,
* swan,
* teacher,

**Animals**

With animals, there is one general word for the animal. However, many species of animals, particularly those domesticated, have been given specific names for the male and the female.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **animal** | **masculine** | **feminine** |
| **rabbit** | buck | doe |
| **horse** | stallion | mare |
| **sheep** | ram | ewe |
| **pig** | boar | sow |
| **chicken** | rooster | hen |
| **duck** | drake | duck |
| **cattle** | bull | cow |
| **goose** | gander | goose |
| **fox** | fox | vixen |
| **tiger** | tiger | tigress |
| **lion** | lion | lioness |

eponym

ˈɛpənɪm/

*noun*

1. a person after whom a discovery, invention, place, etc., is named or thought to be named.
   * a name or noun formed after a person.