

Die Aus|laut|verhärt|ung im Deutschen

The End|sound|harden|ing in German

(Devoicing of final consonants)

In addition to many other features, consonants in a language can either be voiced (vocal chords vibrating; ON / 1) or voiceless (vocal chords motionless; OFF / 0).

There is a pronunciation rule in German that affects **100%** of the words (or syllables) which end in the following four consonants:

" ____ " at the end of a word (or syllable) → is pronounced like " ____ "

(voiced / 1)

(voiceless / 0)

-b

→

-p

(gelb / ab / halb / Dieb / Staub / Kebab / Club / Weib / Grab / Verb / Zagreb / Job)

-d

→

-t

(Geld / Mund / und / Neid / Lied / Kind / blind / Nord / Süd / Hand / Pferd / Wand)

-g*

→

-k

(Zug / Zwerg / Burg / Berg / Zweig / Weg / Tag / Teig / Krug / klug / Sarg / Auftrag)

-v

→

-f

(positiv / negativ / kreativ / Superlativ / Komparativ / brav / naiv / aktiv / exklusiv)

*remember that if a word ends in "-ig", it is pronounced identically to the word "ich".

Do **NOT** pronounce final "-ig" as "-ik" !