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Grammatical gender

The grammatical gender of German nouns can in many cases be **guessed (with varying accuracy)**.

Suffixes and prefixes denoting grammatical gender

```
grammatical gender    | masculine | feminine | neuter
_____|_____|_____|_____
corresponding        |           |          |
definite article     | der       | die      | das
_____|_____|_____|_____
suffixes             | -ling     | -in      | -tum
                     |           | -heit    | -nis
                     |           | -keit    | -chen
                     |           | -schaft  | -lein
                     |           | -ung     | -sel
_____|_____|_____|_____
suffixes of Latin or |           |          |
Greek origin         | -ant      | -ion     | -ment
                     | -ist      | -tät     | -ium
                     | -ismus    | -ie      |
                     |           | -enz     |
```

```
_____|_____|_____|_____
prefixes           |          |         | Ge-
                   |          |         |
```

Examples

masculine:

```
der Frühling "the spring"          from         früh "early"
```

masculine (of Latin or Greek origin):

```
der Denunziant "the denunciator"   compare      el (!) denunciante
der Sozialist "the socialist"      compare      el (!) socialista
der Sozialismus "the socialism"    compare      el (!) socialismo
```

feminine:

```
die Herrin "the mistress"          from         Herr "master"
die Schönheit "the beauty"         from         schön "beautiful"
die Ehrlichkeit "the honesty"      from         ehrlich "honest"
die Knechtschaft "the servitude"   from         Knecht "slave"
die Schreibung "the spelling"      from         schreiben "to write"
```

feminine (of Latin or Greek origin):

```
die Faszination "the fascination"          compare        la (!) fascinación
die Majestät "the majesty"                 compare        la (!) majestad
die Phantasie "the fantasy"                compare        la (!) fantasía
die Präsenz "the presence"                 compare        la (!) presencia
```

neuter:

```
das Brauchtum "all the customs"            from           Brauch "(a) custom"
das Zeugnis "the testimony/certificate"    from           zeugen "to testify"
das Hündchen "the little dog"              from           Hund "dog"
das Kindlein "the little child"            from           Kind "child"
das Rätsel "the riddle"                    from           raten "to guess"
```

neuter (of Latin or Greek origin):

```
das Firmament "the firmament"              compare        el (!) firmamento
das Mysterium "the mystery"                compare        el (!) misterio
```

neuter (with Prefix):

```
das Gerede "the gossip"                    from           reden "to talk"
```

The genitive singular form, the nominative plural form, the singular class, and the plural class of the aforementioned suffixes (the prefix Ge- therefore being omitted)

```
article | nominative | genitive    | nominative | singular | plural
        | singular    | singular    | plural     | class    | class
_____|_____|_____|_____|_____|_____
der     | -ling       | -linges     | -linge     | s1       | p1
der     | -ant        | -anten      | -anten     | s2a      | p2
der     | -ist        | -isten      | -isten     | s2a      | p2
der     | -ismus      | -ismus      | -ismen     | s3       | p2
_____|_____|_____|_____|_____|_____
die     | -in         | -in         | -innen     | s3       | p2
die     | -heit       | -heit       | -heiten    | s3       | p2
die     | -keit       | -keit       | -keiten    | s3       | p2
die     | -schaft     | -schaft     | -schaften  | s3       | p2
die     | -ung        | -ung        | -ungen     | s3       | p2
die     | -ion        | -ion        | -ionen     | s3       | p2
die     | -tät        | -tät        | -täten     | s3       | p2
die     | -ie         | -ie         | -ien       | s3       | p2
die     | -enz        | -enz        | -enzen     | s3       | p2
_____|_____|_____|_____|_____|_____
das     | -tum        | -tums       | -tümer     | s1       | p1
das     | -nis        | -nisses     | -nisse     | s1       | p1
das     | -chen       | -chens      | -chen      | s1       | p2
das     | -lein       | -leins      | -lein      | s1       | p2
das     | -sel        | -sels       | -sel       | s1       | p1
das     | -ment       | -ments      | -mente     | s1       | p1
das     | -ium        | -iums       | -ien       | s1       | p2
```

Suffixes denoting grammatical gender depending on the meaning of the word

grammatical gender	masculine	feminine	neuter
corresponding definite article	der	die	das
suffixes with meaning	-er (someone who does something, e.g. Bäcker "baker", or someone who is from some place, e.g. Berliner "man from Berlin")	-e (abstractions, e.g. Liebe "love")	-en (nominalized infinitives, e.g. Backen "baking")
		-t (abstractions, e.g. Macht "(a) might/force")	
		-ei (locations, e.g. Bäckerei "bakery")	
		-ei (abstractions, e.g.	

```
|                      | Schmeichelei        |
|                      | "flattery")         |
|                      |                     |
```

The genitive singular form, the nominative plural form, the singular class, and the plural class of the aforementioned suffixes

article	nominative singular	genitive singular	nominative plural	singular class	plural class
der	-er	-ers	-er	s1	p1
die	-e	-e	-en	s3	p2
die	-t	-t	-te	s3	p1
die	-ei	-ei	-eien	s3	p2
das	-en	-ens	N/A	s1	N/A

Grammatical gender being associated with categories

grammatical gender	masculine	feminine	neuter
corresponding definite article	der	die	das

```
_____|_____|_____|_____
categories  | male persons       | female persons        | animal children
            | male animals       | female animals        | fractions
            | big/dangerous animals | small/harmless animals |
            |                    | birds                 |
            |                    | trees                 |
            |                    | German rivers         |
            |                    |                       |
```

Examples

masculine:

```
der Mann "the man" (male person)
der Stier "the bull" (male animal)
der Wal "the whale" (big/dangerous animal)
```

feminine:

```
die Frau "the woman" (female person)
die Kuh "the cow" (female animal)
die Maus "the mouse" (small/harmless animal)
die Amsel "the blackbird" (bird)
die Birke "the birch" (tree)
die Donau "the Danube" (German river)
```

neuter:

```
das Fohlen "the foal" (animal child)
das Drittel "the third" (fraction)
```