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"
```

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")           |
             |                       |                       |
```

Grammatical gender being associated with categories

```
grammatical |                       |                       |
gender      | masculine             | feminine              | neuter
_____|_____|_____|_____
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)
```