



PLURAL

Hello again! Let's talk about nouns.

A noun is a word for a person, place, or thing.

For example: der Mann, die Frau, das Haus, die Stadt.

m                      f                      n                      f

In English, we often just add an -s to make a noun plural (one cat → two cats). In German, it's a little different. There are many ways to make a plural!

But don't worry! There are some patterns we can learn.

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## First, A Very Important Rule!

In German, the plural article is always **die**.

It doesn't matter if the noun is masculine (der), feminine (die), or neuter (das). When it becomes plural, the word "the" is always **die**.

- der Tisch (the table) → die Tische (the tables)
- die Lampe (the lamp) → die Lampen (the lamps)
- das Buch (the book) → die Bücher (the books)

Let's learn the most common ways to make plurals.

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## Group 1: Add -e / Add -e + Umlaut (¨)

Many nouns, especially **masculine** and **neuter** ones, add **-e**. Sometimes they also add an **Umlaut** (ä, ö, ü) on the vowel.

Examples with -e:

- • der Tisch → die Tische (the table → the tables)
- • der Schuh → die Schuhe (the shoe → the shoes)
- • das Heft → die Hefte (the notebook → the notebooks)

Examples with -e + Umlaut:

- • der Stuhl → die Stühle (the chair → the chairs)
- • der Apfel → die Äpfel (the apple → the apples)
- • der Vater → die Väter (the father → the fathers)

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## Group 2: Add -en / -n

Many **feminine** nouns add **-n** or **-en**. This is a very common pattern for feminine nouns!

Examples with -n:

- <sup>Lampen</sup> die Lampe → die Lampen (the lamp → the lamps) → f. Noun - e + n
- die Schule → die Schulen (the school → the schools)
- die Tasche → die Taschen (the bag → the bags) → f. Noun + en

Examples with -en:

- • die Frau → die Frauen (the woman → the women)
- • die Antwort → die Antworten (the answer → the answers)

A special note: If a feminine noun ends in **-e**, it almost always just adds **-n** (like Lampe → Lampen).

### Group 3: Add -er / Add -er + Umlaut

Many neuter nouns and some masculine nouns use this ending. If the vowel can take an Umlaut, it often will.

Examples with -er + Umlaut:

- das Buch → die Bücher (the book → the books)
- das Haus → die Häuser (the house → the houses)
- der Mann → die Männer (the man → the men)

Examples with just -er (no Umlaut):

- das Kind → die Kinder (the child → the children)
- das Ei → die Eier (the egg → the eggs)

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### Group 4: Add -s

This group is small and easy! We use -s for many words that come from other languages and for short words.

Examples:

- das Auto → die Autos (the car → the cars)
- das Hotel → die Hotels (the hotel → the hotels)
- der Park → die Parks (the park → the parks)
- die Oma → die Omas (the grandma → the grandmas) - short, familiar word

## Group 5: No Change! (Or just an Umlaut)

Some nouns do not change at all in the plural. Others only add an Umlaut.

Examples with No Change:

- der Lehrer → **die** Lehrer (the teacher → the teachers)
- das Mädchen → **die** Mädchen (the girl → the girls)
- der Fehler → **die** Fehler (the mistake → the mistakes)

Examples with Only an Umlaut:

- der Bruder → **die Brüder** (the brother → the brothers)
- die Mutter → **die Mütter** (the mother → the mothers)
- der Garten → **die Gärten** (the garden → the gardens)

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## How to Learn the Plurals? A Tip!

It seems like a lot, but the best way is to learn the article and the plural form together when you learn a new noun.

Don't just learn: Tisch

Learn: der Tisch, die Tische

Don't just learn: Buch

Learn: das Buch, die Bücher

This will help you remember much faster!

## Let's Practice!

What is the plural form? (Remember, it's always 'die'!)

1. der Hund (the dog) → die Hunde
2. die Blume (the flower) → die Blumen
3. das Kind (the child) → die Kinder
4. der Park (the park) → die Parks
5. der Vater (the father) → die Väter

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## Summary: Key Rules to Remember

1. Plural "the" is always **die**. This is the most important rule!
2. There are 5 main groups:
  - **-e / -e + Umlaut** (der Tisch → die Tische)
  - **-en / -n** (die Frau → die Frauen)
  - **-er / -er + Umlaut** (das Haus → die Häuser)
  - **-s** (das Auto → die Autos)
  - **No Change / Only Umlaut** (der Lehrer → die Lehrer)
3. Learn the plural with the noun from the beginning.

It's a big topic, but you don't need to know everything at once. Start with the most common words and you will see the patterns.

Fantastic! You now know the basics of German plurals.

Vielen Dank und bis zum nächsten Mal!

(Thank you and until next time!)

## Teil 1: Einfache Nomen (Easy Nouns)

Write the plural form for these common nouns.

Singular	Plural
1. der Tisch (the table)	die _____
2. die Lampe (the lamp)	die _____
3. das Buch (the book)	die _____
4. der Stuhl (the chair)	die _____
5. die Tasche (the bag)	die _____
6. das Heft (the notebook)	die _____
7. der Schuh (the shoe)	die _____
8. die Schule (the school)	die _____

## Teil 2: Gemischt (Mixed)

Now it gets a little more mixed! Be careful with umlauts (ä, ö, ü).

Singular	Plural
9. der Vater (the father)	die _____
10. die Mutter (the mother)	die _____
11. das Kind (the child)	die _____
12. der Bruder (the brother)	die _____
13. das Auto (the car)	die _____
14. der Apfel (the apple)	die _____
15. der Park (the park)	die _____
16. der Fehler (the mistake)	die _____



### Teil 3: Eine kleine Herausforderung (A Small Challenge)

Can you find the plural for these?

Singular	Plural
17. die Frau (the woman)	die _____
18. der Mann (the man)	die _____
19. das Haus (the house)	die _____
20. der Lehrer (the teacher - male)	die _____
21. das Mädchen (the girl)	die _____
22. das Hotel (the hotel)	die _____
23. der Garten (the garden)	die _____
24. die Antwort (the answer)	die _____

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### Bonusaufgabe (Bonus Task)

Write 3 simple sentences using nouns in their plural form.

Example: *Die Bücher sind interessant. (The books are interesting.)*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_