Episode 003 – Grammar

Indefinite articles

German nouns are often preceded by an article.

The article indicates the case, number and gender of the noun it precedes.

There are definite and indefinite articles.

Indefinite articles refer to an object or person whose identity is not already known or hasn't yet been specified.

German has three classes of gender: masculine, feminine and neuter.

	Indefinite article + noun	Definite article + noun
Masculine	***ein*** *Blitz*	***der*** *Blitz*
Feminine	***eine*** *Milch*	***die*** *Milch*
Neuter	***ein*** *Brötchen*	***das*** *Brötchen*

The plural is easy: Indefinite articles have no plural, so plural nouns appear without an article.

	Indefinite article	Definite article
Singular	*Ich möchte* ***ein*** *Brötchen.*	*Ich möchte* ***das*** *Brötchen.*
Plural	*Ich möchte* *Brötchen.*	*Ich möchte* ***die*** *Brötchen.*

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More:

German has four cases.
In this chart you can see the definite and indefinite articles in each case in the singular.

	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
Nominative	**ein** **der**	**eine** **die**	**ein** **das**
Accusative	**einen** **den**	**eine** **die**	**ein** **das**
Dative	**einem** **dem**	**einer** **der**	**einem** **dem**
Genitive	**eines** **des**	**einer** **der**	**eines** **des**

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