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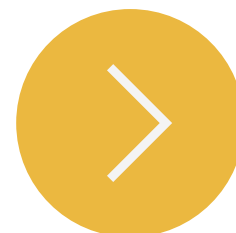
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Nouns

NOUNS – L6.3: THE DATIVE CASE

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Video Lesson:

<https://easy-deutsch.com/yt/nounsL6-3/>

WHAT IS THE DATIVE CASE?

The **dative case** is also known as the **indirect object**.

BUT: We also use the dative case **after certain verbs and prepositions**.

The indirect object is the noun that receives something (which usually is in the **accusative case**).

The question for the dative case is "Wem?" (To whom?) or "Was?" (What?)

EXAMPLES

- „Das Auto gehört **dem Mann**.“

Who does the car belong to? – **Dem Mann!**

The verb "gehören" always requires the dative case.

- „Der Junge schenkt **einer Freundin** die Blumen.“

To whom does the boy give the flowers? – **Einer Freundin!**

"Freundin" is the indirect object. She receives the flowers!

What does the boy give to a friend? – **Die Blumen!**

"Die Blumen" is the direct object, which is acted upon!

DATIVE – DECLENSION

In the dative case, we need to change all articles!

	Definite Article	Indefinite Article
Masculine	dem Mann	einem Mann
Feminine	der Frau	einer Frau
Neuter	dem Kind	einem Kind
Plural	den Eltern	- Eltern

SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

When the plural form doesn't end in "s" or "n", the plural form in dative requires an extra "-n" that needs to be added on to the end.

- *die Fahrräder* – *den Fahrrädern*n
- *die Bilder* – *den Bilder*n
- *die Tische* – *den Tischen*n
- *die Autos* – *den Autos* → kein "n"
- *die Frauen* – *den Frauen* → kein "n"

USE OF THE DATIVE CASE

Use: Indirect Objects

In sentences with more than one object, the indirect object is always in the dative case unless the preposition requires the genitive or accusative case.

- „Er gibt **dem Mann** die Schlüssel.“

The person performing the action ("er" → he → subject → **nominative case**) - gives something ("die Schlüssel" → the keys are acted upon → direct object → **accusative case**) to a receiver ("Der Mann" → the man gets something → indirect object → **dative case**).

**Advice:**

The noun in the dative case usually receives something (The noun in the accusative case).

Use: Dative Objects

After certain verbs (verbs with dative complements), the dative always needs to be used. For example, "helfen", "gehören", "zuhören".

- „Ich helfe **dem Mann**.“
- „Das Auto gehört **einem Kollegen**.“
- „Ich höre **meiner Freundin** zu.“

Those verbs require the dative case. The object is still the "direct object", but the verb can only be used with the dative case.

→ **It's the dative case because the verb says so!**

Use: After Prepositions

The prepositions "aus", "bei", "gegenüber", "mit", "nach", "seit", "von" and "zu" are always followed by a noun in **the dative case**.

- „Er kommt aus **dem Haus**.“
- „Du bist bei **einer Freundin**.“
- „Der Mann geht zu **dem Bahnhof**.“



Remember:

Like for the accusative case, if you have a preposition in front of a noun, none of the other rules apply anymore.

All that matters is what the preposition says!

It doesn't matter whether it's a direct or indirect object or if the verb requires a particular case!

The preposition determines the case. ALWAYS!

TASK



- Go to my sample verb vocabulary list in the bonus section.
- I've already written 10 of the most important verbs that require the dative case.
- If you add verbs that require **dative** (or **genitive**), mark them in their color.
- **The colors are visual reminders and will help you to remember if a verb requires a particular case or not.**

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