

Adverbien: Wann, Wie, Warum, Wo?

Adverbs: When, How, Why, Where?

Adverbs and Adverbial Phrases

Adverbs are words or phrases that answer the questions when? why? how? or where? about the action in a sentence. You already know many adverbs such as 'jetzt' (now) or 'hier' (here), but now we'll gather up what we know and expand our ability to specify more detail about events.

You may wish to look over pages 150-152 in your textbook, which clarifies things in a slightly different way than this presentation. The end result of being able to add adverbs into sentences in their proper word order will be the same!

There are three main types of adverbs: adverbs of time, adverbs of manner, and adverbs of place. We'll review and expand on each of these types so that you can form more expressive sentences.

Adverbs of Time

Adverbs of **time** answer the question **WANN?** (when?) or **WIE OFT?** (how often?). You already know many of the time adverbs, but here is a list of time words and phrases you should be familiar with.

<u>jetzt</u>	=	now	<u>nie</u>	=	never
<u>immer</u>	=	always	<u>oft</u>	=	often
<u>selten</u>	=	rarely, seldom	<u>taglich</u>	=	daily
<u>nicht mehr</u>	=	no longer	<u>noch nicht</u>	=	not yet
<u>morgen</u>	=	tomorrow	<u>heute</u>	=	today
<u>jeden Tag</u>	=	every day	<u>spater</u>	=	later
<u>um + Uhrzeit</u>	=	at + time	<u>am + Tag</u>	=	on + a day
<u>im + Monat</u>	=	in + month	<u>bis + Zeit</u>	=	until + a time

Your textbook refers to these adverbs as determining the "Zeit" (time) of the action.

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Adverbs of Manner

Adverbs of **manner** answer the questions **WIE?** (how?) or **WARUM?** (why?). This is a large group and is quite flexible; you can include answers to questions like 'for what **reason** or **purpose**' or "by what **method**" or "using what **means**" to determine the '**manner**' element.

<u>zusammen</u>	=	together	<u>allein</u>	=	alone
<u>vielleicht</u>	=	maybe	<u>bestimmt</u>	=	certainly
<u>leider</u>	=	unfortunately	<u>wirklich</u>	=	really
<u>fast</u>	=	almost	<u>ganz</u>	=	completely, rather
<u>gern</u>	=	gladly, with pleasure	<u>schnell</u>	=	quickly
<u>viel</u>	=	a lot, much	<u>ein bisschen</u>	=	a little
<u>hoffentlich</u>	=	hopefully	<u>mit + Dat</u>	=	with (a person/thing)
<u>fur + Akk</u>	=	for (a person/thing)	<u>ohne + Akk</u>	=	without (a person/thing)

Your textbook refers to these adverbs as determining the "Art und Weise" (nature and manner) of the action.

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Adverbs of Place

Adverbs of **place** answer the questions **WO?** (where?), **WOHIN?** (where to?) or **WOHER?** (where from?). You know many of these, although some with the prepositions **nach**, **zu**, **aus**, and **bei**, which use the **dative case**, are things we will be learning in the coming weeks.

<u>hier</u>	= here	<u>da</u>	= there (nearby)
<u>dort</u>	= there (pointing)	<u>da drüben</u>	= over there
<u>überall</u>	= everywhere	<u>woanders</u>	= somewhere else
<u>irgendwo</u>	= anywhere	<u>nirgendwo</u>	= nowhere
<u>in der Nähe</u>	= nearby	<u>weit weg</u>	= far away
<u>nach + Dat</u>	= to large places	<u>zu + Dat</u>	= to small places
<u>in + Dat/Akk</u>	= in or into confined areas	<u>aus + Dat</u>	= from a place
<u>bei + Dat</u>	= at a place	<u>um + Akk</u>	= around a place

Your textbook refers to these adverbs as determining the “Ort” (location) of the action.

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Word Order: Three Rules

You've already learned that **word order in German** is **different** from English. There are **three main rules** to keep in mind when talking about German word order in sentences.

① The **conjugated verb** must be the **second element** in any German **statement**. In a yes/no **question** or a **command**, the conjugated **verb** is placed **first**.

Ich lerne Deutsch.

I am learning German.

Lernst du auch Deutsch?

Are you also learning German?

② **Infinitives** — secondary action verbs **after** a conjugated **helping verb** — are placed at the **end of the sentence or clause**.

Ich kann Deutsch sprechen.

I can speak German.

Willst du Deutsch lernen?

Do you want to learn German?

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Word Order: Time - Manner - Place

③ Adverbs of **time**, **manner** and **place** always occur in that order: time elements (**when?**) are stated before the manner (**why/how?**), and the place (**where?**) is the last thing to be mentioned.

Ich will im Sommer mit meinen Eltern nach Deutschland reisen.

<i>time</i>	<i>manner</i>	<i>place</i>
<i>wann?</i>	<i>wie?</i>	<i>wo?</i>

Möchtest du heute Abend mit uns ins Kino gehen?

<i>time</i>	<i>manner</i>	<i>place</i>
<i>wann?</i>	<i>wie?</i>	<i>wo?</i>

A short form to help you remember all rules is **SVTMP** which stands for: **subject** - **verb** - **time** - **manner** - **place** - **(object)** - **(infinitive)**. Another way of remember just the adverbial order is to ask the questions "**wann? wie? wo?**" in alphabetical order.

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Variation of Order for Emphasis

Remember that it is possible to **vary the order** of time-manner-place elements when a particular thing deserves **special emphasis**. Even with variation, however, the **verbs must remain in their assigned places!** This means that no matter what element starts the sentence, a **conjugated verb will always be in the second position**.

Ich will im Sommer mit meinen Eltern nach Deutschland reisen. (regular order)
subj verb time manner place infinitive

Im Sommer will ich mit meinen Eltern nach Deutschland reisen. (emphasis order)
time verb subj manner place infinitive

Martine muss heute Abend für ihren Deutschkurs in der Bibliothek lernen. (regular order)
subj verb time manner place infinitive

In der Bibliothek muss Martine heute Abend für ihren Deutschkurs lernen. (emphasis order)
place verb subj time manner infinitive

Also note that where English places a comma after an introductory element, German **does not use a comma**: the sentence simply continues as usual with the verb as the second element.

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Prüfen Sie sich mit Adverbien und Wortstellung!

Test Yourself with Adverbs and Word Order!

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Heidi kommt morgen mit dem Bus zur Schule.

Heidi is coming to school tomorrow by bus.

Morgen kommt Heidi mit dem Bus zur Schule.

Tomorrow, Heidi is coming to school by bus.

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Sie sitzt abends allein in ihrem Zimmer.

She sits in her room alone in the evenings.

Abends sitzt sie allein in ihrem Zimmer.

In the evenings, she sits in her room alone.

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Geht dein Vater heute Abend mit deiner Mutter ins Kino?

Is your father going to the movies with your mom tonight?

Nein, sie können heute Abend nicht zusammen ins Kino gehen.

No, they can't go to the movies together tonight.

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Georg muss morgen für die Arbeit nach München fliegen.

George has to fly to Munich tomorrow for work.

Kann er jetzt mit seinen Freunden dort Deutsch sprechen?

Is he able to speak German with his friends there now?

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Ich will am Wochenende mit meinem Freund in die Disko gehen.

I want to go to the nightclub this weekend with my boyfriend.

Dieses Wochenende darf mein Freund mit mir nicht tanzen gehen.

This weekend, my boyfriend isn't allowed to go dancing with me.

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<u>immer</u>	=	<i>always</i>	<u>nie</u>	=	<i>never</i>
<u>selten</u>	=	<i>rarely, seldom</i>	<u>um Mittag</u>	=	<i>at noon</i>
<u>im Dezember</u>	=	<i>in December</i>	<u>am Samstag</u>	=	<i>on Saturday</i>
<u>zusammen</u>	=	<i>together</i>	<u>wirklich</u>	=	<i>really</i>
<u>mit dem Bus</u>	=	<i>by bus</i>	<u>für den Kurs</u>	=	<i>for the course</i>
<u>überall</u>	=	<i>everywhere</i>	<u>nirgendwo</u>	=	<i>nowhere</i>
<u>im Zimmer</u>	=	<i>in the room</i>	<u>da , dort</u>	=	<i>there (2 possible)</i>
<u>bei der Arbeit</u>	=	<i>at work</i>	<u>nach Hause</u>	=	<i>home, to my house</i>

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Das Ende

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