

Der Dativ für Indirekte Objekte

The Dative Case for Indirect Objects

dem Mann

einer Frau

meinem Kind

euren Freunden

Review: Nominative Case

As you know, the nominative case is simply the 'original' form of the gender article: *der, die, das, die*. Remember that there are articles to mean 'the', articles to mean 'a' or 'none' and even possessive articles (my, your, his, etc.), all of which can be in the nominative case.

MASKULIN	FEMININ	NEUTRUM	PLURAL	
R	E	S	E	<i>shortcut</i>
der	die	das	die	' <i>the</i> '
ein	eine	ein	∅	' <i>a</i> '
kein	keine	kein	keine	' <i>no</i> '
mein	meine	mein	meine	' <i>my</i> '

Review: Nominative Case for Subjects

The nominative is used for **nouns stated alone** without any sentence or context. It is also used for the **subjects** of sentences: who or what is doing the verb. Finally, the nominative case is used for **predicate nouns**: when a **noun is equal to another noun** in a sentence.

ein Computer

"a computer" stands alone

Der alte Tisch ist braun.

"the table" is the subject

Dieser Mann ist der Professor.

"the professor" = "the man" (X = X)

When you learn new nouns, you learn them in the nominative case when given on a vocabulary list or in the dictionary. The nominative case is the 'original' form of the article with the noun.

Review: Accusative Case

The **accusative case** was a bit tricky when we first saw it, but by now you should be recognizing it more easily. As a reminder, **only the masculine article changes** in the accusative case: the **R** becomes **N**, such as **der** → **den** or **mein** → **meinen**.

MASKULIN	FEMININ	NEUTRUM	PLURAL	
N	E	S	E	<i>shortcut</i>
den	die	das	die	<i>'the'</i>
einen	eine	ein	∅	<i>'a'</i>
keinen	keine	kein	keine	<i>'no'</i>
meinen	meine	mein	meine	<i>'my'</i>

Review: Accusative for Direct Objects

The most important use of the accusative case is for the direct object in a sentence. When a sentence has the structure "X verbs Y", then the 'Y' element will be placed in the accusative case, because it is the direct object. The 'X' element, the subject, is still nominative!

Ich habe einen Bruder.

brother = masculine object of 'have'

Mein Vater liebt seinen Hund.

dog = masculine object of 'loves'

Wie findest du meinen Computer?

computer = masculine object of 'find'

If you have trouble recognizing what a direct object is, first try the "X verbs Y" idea. Then ask yourself "what is being 'verbed'?" The answer to that question will be the direct object and should be in the accusative case.

Review: Accusative after Certain Prepositions

The second use of the accusative case is after certain prepositions, called "accusative prepositions". These prepositions are:

durch	für	gegen	ohne	um	bis	pro	entlang
through	for	against	without	around	until	per	along

After any of the above prepositions, the following noun must be placed in the accusative case. Remember that "entlang" actually comes after the noun, it is unusual because it is a 'postposition' rather than 'preposition'.

Ich brauche ein Buch für den Kurs.

I need a book for the course.

Wir warten bis nächsten Montag.

We'll wait until next Monday.

Sie laufen den Fluss entlang.

They're walking along the river.

Dative Case Overview

The third of the four German cases is the Dative Case. (German = der Dativ.) The dative case will be used for the following parts of sentences:

- ① the indirect objects, or beneficiaries/recipients of the action in a sentence
- ② after the dative prepositions (*aus - außer - bei - mit - nach - seit - von - zu*)
- ③ with a small number of dative verbs
- ④ to indicate stationary location after two-way prepositions

Today we will talk about the first usage, indirect objects or beneficiaries of the action in a sentence. The other topics will be covered in the upcoming lessons.

Dative Articles Overview

In the dative case, all genders change their articles or endings. The short form for remembering the dative case endings is **M - R - M - N**:

MASKULIN	FEMININ	NEUTRUM	PLURAL	
M	R	M	N + _n	<i>shortcut</i>
dem	der	dem	den + _n	'the'
einem	einer	einem	Ø + _n	'a'
keinem	keiner	keinem	keinen + _n	'no'
meinem	meiner	meinem	meinen + _n	'my'

We will walk through each gender with examples, but in future you can simply remember **RESE - NESE - MRMN** as the shortcut to article endings!

Dative Masculine -M endings

The ending of all dative case masculine articles will be -M. This means words like 'dem', 'diesem', 'einem', 'meinem', 'ihrem' will all show -M to indicate the dative case.

Ich gebe meinem Vater eine Karte.

I'm giving my father a card.

Er fährt mit dem Bus zur Uni.

He goes by bus ('with the bus') to campus.

Sie schenkt ihrem Bruder einen Kalender.

She's giving her brother a calendar.

Sie hilft dem Mann.

She's helping (giving help to) the man.

The article 'dem' is uniquely dative, but it is not unique to masculine: neuter dative articles are also 'dem'. Much like the singular 'ein' nominative word, the masculine and neuter share the same articles in the dative case.

	<u>NOMINATIV</u>		<u>DATIV</u>
<u>my boyfriend</u>	<u>mein Freund</u>	-->	<u>to my boyfriend</u> <u>meinem Freund</u>
<u>your father</u>	<u>dein Vater</u>	-->	<u>to your father</u> <u>deinem Vater</u>
<u>the professor</u>	<u>der Professor</u>	-->	<u>to the professor</u> <u>dem Professor</u>
<u>our cousin</u>	<u>unser Cousin</u>	-->	<u>to our cousin</u> <u>unserem Cousin</u>
<u>a child</u>	<u>ein Kind</u>	-->	<u>to a child</u> <u>einem Kind</u>
<u>our brother</u>	<u>unser Bruder</u>	-->	<u>to our brother</u> <u>unserem Bruder</u>
<u>their uncle</u>	<u>ihr Onkel</u>	-->	<u>to their uncle</u> <u>ihrem Onkel</u>

Dative Feminine -R endings

The ending of all dative case **feminine** articles will be **-R**. This means words like 'der', 'dieser', 'einer', 'meiner', 'ihrer' will all show **-R** to indicate the dative case.

Er schenkt <u>seiner Mutter</u> die Blumen.	<i>He's giving <u>his mother</u> the flowers.</i>
Wir geben <u>unserer Professorin</u> einen Apfel.	<i>We're giving <u>our professor</u> an apple.</i>
Ich bin jetzt bei <u>der Arbeit</u> .	<i>I am at <u>work</u> now.</i>
Gibst du <u>deiner Freundin</u> den Ring?	<i>Are you giving <u>your girlfriend</u> the ring?</i>

The article '**der**' might confuse you at first, because you know it as the nominative form of the **masculine** article (*der Mann*). But when a **feminine** noun follows '**der**' it is in the dative case. The gender of the noun has not changed! It is still a **feminine** noun, but it is using a dative case article that happens to look the same as the **masculine** nominative form.

	<u>NOMINATIV</u>		<u>DATIV</u>
<u>the woman</u>	<u>die Frau</u>	-->	<u>to the woman</u> <u>der Frau</u>
<u>my mother</u>	<u>meine Mutter</u>	-->	<u>to my mother</u> <u>meiner Mutter</u>
<u>his sister</u>	<u>seine Schwester</u>	-->	<u>to his sister</u> <u>seiner Schwester</u>
<u>a teacher (f.)</u>	<u>eine Lehrerin</u>	-->	<u>to a teacher (f.)</u> <u>einer Lehrerin</u>
<u>y'all's aunt</u>	<u>eure Tante</u>	-->	<u>to y'all's aunt</u> <u>eurer Tante</u>
<u>this student (f.)</u>	<u>diese Studentin</u>	-->	<u>to this student (f.)</u> <u>dieser Studentin</u>
<u>our daughter</u>	<u>unsere Tochter</u>	-->	<u>to our daughter</u> <u>unserer Tochter</u>

Dative Neuter -M endings

The ending of all dative case neuter articles will be -M. This means words like 'dem', 'diesem', 'einem', 'meinem', 'ihrem' will all show -M to indicate the dative case.

Sie kauft ihrem Kind ein Eis.

She's buying her child an ice cream.

Wir fahren mit dem Fahrrad.

We're going by bike ('with the bike').

Gibst du diesem Baby etwas zu essen?

Are you giving this baby something to eat?

Ich wohne seit einem Jahr hier.

I have been living here since one year ago.

The neuter article 'dem' clearly shows the dative case, but it is shared with its masculine counterpart, which is also 'dem'. The same was true of the nominative 'ein' words (*ein Mann* and *ein Buch*), and there isn't any problem having articles that are used in several different ways.

	<u>NOMINATIV</u>		<u>DATIV</u>
<u>the child</u>	<u>das Kind</u>	-->	<u>to the child</u> <u>dem Kind</u>
<u>her baby</u>	<u>ihr Baby</u>	-->	<u>to her baby</u> <u>ihrem Baby</u>
<u>one year</u>	<u>ein Jahr</u>	-->	<u>to one year</u> <u>einem Jahr</u>
<u>my book</u>	<u>mein Buch</u>	-->	<u>to my book</u> <u>meinem Buch</u>
<u>their car</u>	<u>ihr Auto</u>	-->	<u>to their car</u> <u>ihrem Auto</u>
<u>his water</u>	<u>sein Wasser</u>	-->	<u>to his water</u> <u>seinem Wasser</u>
<u>the bread</u>	<u>das Brot</u>	-->	<u>to the bread</u> <u>dem Brot</u>

Dative Plural -N + _n endings

The ending of all dative case **plural** articles will be **-N**. This means words like 'den', 'diesen', 'keinen', 'meinen', 'ihren' will all show **-N** to indicate the dative case.

In addition, **plural nouns** themselves, when in the dative case, will **add an -N** if it is possible. Nouns that already have an **-N** do not add a second -N, and nouns **ending in -S cannot add -N**, but **any plural noun ending in -E or -R will need to add an additional -N**.

Ich helfe <u>meinen Kindern</u> .	<i>I'm helping (giving help to) <u>my children</u>.</i>
Sie spricht mit <u>den Amerikanern</u> .	<i>She's talking to <u>the Americans</u>.</i>
Wir schenken <u>unseren Eltern</u> Blumen.	<i>We're giving <u>our parents</u> flowers.</i>
Sie fahren mit <u>den neuen Autos</u> .	<i>They're driving with <u>the new cars</u>.</i>

The **plural** dative article '**den**' looks the same as the **masculine** accusative '**den**', however it is being applied in the dative case to **plural** nouns, and those nouns are adding **-N** whenever possible.

<u>NOMINATIV</u>			<u>DATIV</u>	
<u>the children</u>	<u>die Kinder</u>	-->	<u>to the children</u>	<u>den Kindern</u>
<u>these brothers</u>	<u>diese Brüder</u>	-->	<u>to these brothers</u>	<u>diesen Brüdern</u>
<u>my parents</u>	<u>meine Eltern</u>	-->	<u>to my parents</u>	<u>meinen Eltern</u>
<u>our cars</u>	<u>unsere Autos</u>	-->	<u>to our cars</u>	<u>unseren Autos</u>
<u>your friends</u>	<u>deine Freunde</u>	-->	<u>to your friends</u>	<u>deinen Freunden</u>
<u>her dogs</u>	<u>ihre Hunde</u>	-->	<u>to her dogs</u>	<u>ihren Hunden</u>
<u>his cats</u>	<u>seine Katzen</u>	-->	<u>to his cats</u>	<u>seinen Katzen</u>

<u>NOMINATIV</u>			<u>DATIV</u>	
<u>my grandfather</u>	<u>mein Großvater</u>	-->	<u>to my grandfather</u>	<u>meinem Großvater</u>
<u>his niece</u>	<u>seine Nichte</u>	-->	<u>to his niece</u>	<u>seiner Nichte</u>
<u>your son</u>	<u>dein Sohn</u>	-->	<u>to your son</u>	<u>deinem Sohn</u>
<u>your sons</u>	<u>deine Söhne</u>	-->	<u>to your sons</u>	<u>deinen Söhnen</u>
<u>this book</u>	<u>dieses Buch</u>	-->	<u>to this book</u>	<u>diesem Buch</u>
<u>these books</u>	<u>diese Bücher</u>	-->	<u>to these books</u>	<u>diesen Büchern</u>
<u>our professor (f.)</u>	<u>unsere Professorin</u>	-->	<u>to our professor (f.)</u>	<u>unserer Professorin</u>

Dative Case for Indirect Objects

As mentioned above, one of the most important uses of the dative case is for the indirect object in a sentence.

The indirect object means the 'recipient' or 'beneficiary' of the action – to whom or for whom is the action being done? Usually this means a person; although it's possible to do things for objects it's much less common than doing things for people.

When deciding what element needs the dative case in a sentence, you should look for three separate things: X, Y and Z. The sentence will usually be structured as "X gives Z the Y" or "X verbs Y for Z". The Z element will be the beneficiary and will be in the dative case.

Wir geben unserer Mutter die Blumen.

We're giving our mother the flowers.

Kaufst du den Kindern einen Kuchen?

Are you buying the children a cake?

Der Vater erzählt dem Sohn eine Geschichte.

The father is telling the son a story.

Direct Objects Are Still Accusative

As a reminder, all of the rules about the accusative case that we had learned are still true! This means that the direct objects – the actual things being given or verbed – are still in the accusative case. The “X gives Z the Y” structure means that the Y element, the thing being given, is still in the accusative case. It is only the recipients who are in the dative case.

Normally there will be a string of three cases: nominative subject, dative recipient, and accusative object, usually in that order. This is much like the English word order when stating the indirect object (recipient) before the direct object (thing).

Er gibt seiner Freundin einen Kuss.

He's giving his girlfriend a kiss.

Wir kaufen unseren Eltern einen Computer.

We're buying our parents a computer.

Bringst du dem Mann den Kaffee?

Are you bringing the man the coffee?

Prüfen Sie sich mit dem Dativ!

Test Yourself with the Dative Case!

Martine gives her boyfriend a kiss.

Who is the recipient? *her boyfriend*

in German, dative = **ihrem Freund**

What is the object? *a kiss*

in German, accusative = **einen Kuss**

whole sentence:

Martine gibt ihrem Freund einen Kuss.

The waiter is bringing the food to the woman.

Who is the recipient? *the woman*

in German, dative = **der Frau**

What is the object? *the food*

in German, accusative = **das Essen**

whole sentence:

Der Kellner bringt der Frau das Essen.

The mother is baking a cake for the children.

Who is the recipient? *the children*

in German, dative = **den Kindern**

What is the object? *a cake*

in German, accusative = **einen Kuchen**

whole sentence:

Die Mutter bäckt den Kindern einen Kuchen.

I'm writing my uncle a letter.

Who is the recipient? *my uncle*

in German, dative = **meinem Onkel**

What is the object? *a letter*

in German, accusative = **einen Brief**

whole sentence:

Ich schreibe meinem Onkel einen Brief.

What are you giving your brother for his birthday?

Who is the recipient? *your brother*

in German, dative = **deinem Bruder**

What is the object? *what*

in German, accusative = **was**

whole sentence:

Was schenkst du deinem Bruder zum Geburtstag?

We're showing our friends the photos.

Who is the recipient? *our friends*

in German, dative = **unseren Freunden**

What is the object? *the photos*

in German, accusative = **die Fotos**

whole sentence:

Wir zeigen unseren Freunden die Fotos.

Adjective Endings in Dative Case: After Articles

As you know, all adjectives that precede nouns in German must have a gender and case ending. In the dative case, the endings are very simple: since all articles in the dative case have changed from their original form, the endings of adjectives that follow any dative article will simply be -n in all genders. This follows the flowchart we had previously discussed for adjective endings: if the article is not in its original form (and none of the dative articles keep their original forms), then -n is added to the adjective.

Ich gebe meinem alten Freund einen Kuss.

I'm giving my old friend a kiss.

Was kaufst du deiner jungen Schwester?

What are you buying your young sister?

Er fährt mit seinem neuen Auto.

He's driving with his new car.

Sie erzählt den kleinen Kindern eine Geschichte. *She's telling the small children a story.*

Prüfen Sie sich zum letzten Mal!

Test Yourself for the Last Time!

nominative
subject

dative
recipient

accusative
object

The grandma is telling the child a story.

Die Oma erzählt dem Kind eine Geschichte.

The grandma is telling the little child a sweet story.

Die Oma erzählt dem kleinen Kind eine **süße** Geschichte.

accusative
object

nominative
subject

dative
recipient

What should I say to my friends?

Was soll ich meinen Freunden sagen?

What should I say to my good friends?

Was soll ich meinen **guten** Freunden sagen?

nominative
subject

accusative
object

dative
recipient

The waitress recommends the apple strudel to the family.

Die Kellnerin empfiehlt der Familie den Apfelstrudel.

The waitress recommends the warm apple strudel to the nice family.

Die Kellnerin empfiehlt der netten Familie den warmen Apfelstrudel.

nominative
subject

dative
recipient

accusative
object

I should send my professor an email.

Ich soll meinem Professor eine E-Mail schicken.

I should send my nice professor a short email.

Ich soll meinem netten Professor eine kurze E-Mail schicken.

beim Friseur

seit einem Jahr

zum Arzt

Dativpräpositionen

Dative Prepositions

außer ihrer Mutter

nach der Schule

mit meinen Freunden

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Reminder: Nouns After Prepositions Take Cases

You already know that after some prepositions, the noun needs to be placed in the accusative case. The accusative prepositions are:

durch	für	gegen	ohne	um	bis	pro	entlang
through	for	against	without	around	until	per	along

Ich brauche ein Buch für den Kurs.

I need a book for the course.

Wir warten bis nächsten Montag.

We'll wait until next Monday.

Now we will learn a new set of eight more prepositions, but these prepositions will require the dative case, not the accusative.

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Dative Prepositions Overview

After the following prepositions, the noun will always be in the dative case. This means changing masculine articles to M endings, feminine to R endings, neuter to M endings and plural nouns to N endings with an extra -N added to the noun.

aus	außer	bei	mit	nach	seit	von	zu
out of, from a place	besides, except for	at, at a house	with, by means of	after, to (big places)	since, for (time)	from, of, by	to, for, at

Sie geht jetzt zu dem Arzt.

She's going to the doctor now.

Ich spreche mit meinen Freunden.

I'm talking with my friends.

Ich lerne seit einem Semester Deutsch.

I've been learning German for one semester.

You'll notice that each preposition has several meanings in English; we'll walk through each preposition with several examples to help you understand how they are used correctly.

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aus = 'from' (a place), 'out of' (a place)

'Aus' will always have the physical meaning "from" or "out of" a place.

Ich komme aus Kalifornien.

I come from California.

Die Studenten kommen aus dem Zimmer.

The students are coming out of the room.

Aus welcher Stadt kommst du?

Which city do you come from?

In rare cases, 'aus' can mean "made of" a fabric or substance.

Das Hemd ist aus Polyester.

The shirt is made of polyester.

Der Ring ist aus Gold.

The ring is made of gold.

If you can say "out of" then 'aus' is usually the word you should choose.

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außer = 'besides' or 'except for'

'Außer' means "except for" or "besides" or "with the exception of".

Außer ihrem Vater wohnt ihre ganze Familie in Texas. *Except for her father, her whole family lives in Texas.*

Wir sind alle hier, außer Leonie. *We're all here except for Leonie.*

Außer Deutsch spreche ich auch Englisch. *Besides German, I also speak English.*

Please note that the word is 'außer' all by itself – even if you mean "except for", you cannot add any word like 'für', it is simply 'außer' plus the dative case noun.

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bei = 'at', 'at someone's house'

The most common meaning of 'bei' is "at" a place of business or a building:

Ich kaufe bei Ralphs ein. *I shop at Ralphs.*
Lisa ist jetzt bei dem Arzt. *Lisa is at the doctor now.*
Man findet billiges Essen bei Food4Less. *You can find cheap food at Food4Less.*

When used with a person or name, 'bei' can also mean at a person's house.

Katja wohnt jetzt bei ihrer Tante. *Katja lives at her aunt's house now.*
Bei mir zu Hause haben wir drei Computer. *At my house we have three computers.*
Wir essen heute Abend bei meinen Eltern. *We're eating at my parents' house tonight.*

In addition, 'bei' can sometimes mean "on" as in the meaning "alongside of" or "together with":

Ich habe keinen Stift bei mir. *I don't have a pencil on me.*
Die Bäckerei ist bei dem Marktplatz. *The bakery is on/at the marketplace.*

Be aware that 'bei' almost never means "by". The English "by" will usually be 'von'.

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mit = 'with' or 'by means of'

Usually, 'mit' is simply "with".

Ich gehe <u>mit meinem Freund</u> ins Kino.	<i>I'm going to the movies <u>with my boyfriend</u>.</i>
Sie reist <u>mit ihren Eltern</u> nach England.	<i>She's traveling to England <u>with her parents</u>.</i>
Hans geht <u>mit seiner Schwester</u> einkaufen.	<i>Hans is going shopping <u>with his sister</u>.</i>

With vehicles, 'mit' will translate to English "by" or "by means of":

Fährst du <u>mit dem Bus</u> zur Uni?	<i>Do you go to school <u>by bus</u>?</i>
Tina fährt <u>mit dem Auto</u> .	<i>Tina is going <u>by car</u>.</i>
Ich fahre gern <u>mit dem Fahrrad</u> .	<i>I like to ride my <u>bike</u>.</i>

'Mit' is probably the simplest of the dative prepositions to use, just don't forget to put any following noun into the dative case!

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nach = 'after' or 'to'

With most nouns other than places, 'nach' will mean "after" in a time sense:

<u>Nach dem Unterricht</u> gehen wir ins Café.	<i>After class, we're going to the café.</i>
Wir gehen <u>nach dem Abendessen</u> ins Kino.	<i>We're going to the movies after dinner.</i>
<u>Nach dem Film</u> schlafe ich sofort ein.	<i>After the movie I'll fall asleep immediately.</i>

With large places, 'nach' will mean "to":

Ich reise diesen Sommer <u>nach Deutschland</u> .	<i>I'm traveling to Germany this summer.</i>
Er fährt jeden Tag <u>nach San Diego</u> .	<i>He drives to San Diego every day.</i>

The specific idiomatic phrase "nach Hause" always means "home" or to one's house:

Wann kommst du <u>nach Hause</u> ?	<i>When are you coming home?</i>
Martine bringt ihre Schularbeit <u>nach Hause</u> .	<i>Martine brings her schoolwork home.</i>

(We'll discuss the difference between 'nach' and 'zu' soon!)

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seit = 'since' (time), 'for' (time)

The normal meaning of 'seit' is 'since' a time:

Seit letzter Woche haben wir warmes Wetter. *Since last week* we've been having warm weather.

Ich sitze seit 18 Uhr hier und warte! *I've been sitting here since 6pm* and waiting.

In English, we can also use "for" a period of time with the **progressive tense**, but German will use 'seit' in that context. Notice that the action is still ongoing, so the verb is simply in the **present tense**:

Sie lernt seit vier Monaten Deutsch. *She's been learning German for four months.*

Ich wohne seit einem Jahr hier. *I've been living here for one year.*

Please note that 'seit' does not mean "since" in the "because" meaning – only since a period of time.

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von = 'from' or 'of' or 'by'

'Von' usually means "from" and refers to the source or origin, often with people as creators or givers/senders of the object:

Die Karte ist von meiner Mutter.

The card is from my mother.

Von wem sind die Blumen?

Who are the flowers from?

'Von' can also mean "by" a creator such as an author or artist:

Dieses Buch ist von Goethe.

This book is by Goethe.

Das Gemälde ist von Rembrandt.

The painting is by Rembrandt.

Das ist ein Lied von Peter Schilling.

This is a song by Peter Schilling.

In rare cases, 'von' can overlap with 'aus' as meaning a starting place:

Franz geht von der Bäckerei zum Markt.

Franz goes from the bakery to the market.

Ich komme gerade von meinem Deutschunterricht. *I'm just coming from my German class.*

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zu = 'to' or 'for' or 'at'

For small places like buildings and offices, 'zu' will mean "to":

Ich muss heute zu dem Arzt gehen.

I have to go to the doctor's today.

Die Kinder laufen zu der Schule.

The children are walking to school.

Wir gehen morgen zu dem Supermarkt.

We're going to the supermarket tomorrow.

With occasions such as holidays, or mealtimes, 'zu' will translate to English "at" or "for":

Ich möchte einen Laptop zum Geburtstag.

I'd like a laptop for my birthday.

Zum Frühstück isst sie nur Cornflakes.

For breakfast she only eats cornflakes.

Was schenkst du mir zu Weihnachten?

What are you giving me for Christmas?

The specific idiomatic phrase 'zu Hause' always means "at home" or at one's house:

Heute Abend bleiben wir zu Hause.

Tonight we're staying at home.

Wo bist du? - Ich bin zu Hause.

Where are you? - I'm at home.

43

Contractions: zum, zur, beim, vom

It is very common to use the following contractions with the dative case:

zu dem = zum
bei dem = beim

zu der = zur
von dem = vom

It isn't required to use the contractions, but it does sound more normal in spoken German.

Ich gehe zu dem Arzt.

=

Ich gehe zum Arzt.

Gehst du zu der Uni?

=

Gehst du zur Uni?

Ich kaufe Brötchen bei dem Bäcker.

=

Ich kaufe Brötchen beim Bäcker.

Er kommt gerade von dem Bahnhof.

=

Er kommt gerade vom Bahnhof.

44

Saying 'to' using nach versus zu

'Nach' is used to mean to large open areas: cities, states, countries, and continents.

Wir fahren nach Los Angeles.

We're driving to Los Angeles.

Ich fliege nach Arizona.

I'm flying to Arizona.

Reist du bald nach Deutschland?

Are you traveling to Germany soon?

Sie fliegt nach Europa.

She's flying to Europe.

'Zu' is used to mean to smaller areas, often enclosed spaces like buildings, offices, schools, businesses, and houses.

Du sollst zum Arzt gehen!

You should go to the doctor!

Gehst du sonntags zur Kirche?

Do you go to church on Sundays?

Wir sollen zum Supermarkt gehen.

We should go to the supermarket.

Ich gehe heute Abend zu Markus.

I'm going to Markus' (house) tonight.

45

Saying 'from' using aus versus von

There are times when 'aus' and 'von' can overlap: they do both mean 'from', but usually only one is correct for a given context.

'Aus' is used to mean your hometown or place of origin, usually with cities, states and countries. It can also mean 'out of' an enclosed space involving directed motion.

Silke kommt aus München.

Silke comes from Munich.

Meine Großeltern kommen aus Mexiko.

My grandparents come from Mexico.

Die Lehrerin kommt aus der Tür.

The teacher is coming out of the door.

Laute Musik kommt aus dem Zimmer.

Loud music is coming out of the room.

'Von' is used to express the place you just left, or the departure point on a trip.

Wir fahren von Frankfurt nach Hamburg.

We're driving from Frankfurt to Hamburg.

Greta kommt gerade von dem Supermarkt.

Greta is just coming from the supermarket.

Die Kinder kommen von der Schule nach Hause.

The children are coming home from school.

Laute Musik kommt von dem Zimmer.

Loud music is coming from the room.

46

Prüfen Sie sich mit Dativpräpositionen!

Test Yourself with Dative Prepositions!

47

<i>aus</i>	<i>außer</i>	<i>bei</i>	<i>mit</i>	<i>nach</i>	<i>seit</i>	<i>von</i>	<i>zu</i>
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Ich fahre morgen nach Dresden.

I'm driving to Dresden tomorrow.

48

aus	außer	bei	mit	nach	seit	von	zu
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Ich gehe zu meinem Bruder.

I'm going to my brother's house.

49

aus	außer	bei	mit	nach	seit	von	zu
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Ich reise gern mit dem Zug.

I like to travel by train.

50

aus	außer	bei	mit	nach	seit	von	zu
-----	-------	-----	-----	------	------	-----	----

Ich lerne seit einem Semester Deutsch.

I've been learning German for one semester.

51

aus	außer	bei	mit	nach	seit	von	zu
-----	-------	-----	-----	------	------	-----	----

Essen wir bei deinen Eltern?

Are we eating at your parents' house?

52

aus	außer	bei	mit	nach	seit	von	zu
-----	-------	-----	-----	------	------	-----	----

Das Geschenk ist von meiner Mutter.

The present is from my mother.

53

aus	außer	bei	mit	nach	seit	von	zu
-----	-------	-----	-----	------	------	-----	----

Dieser Wein kommt aus Frankreich.

This wine comes from France.

54

aus	außer	bei	mit	nach	seit	von	zu
-----	-------	-----	-----	------	------	-----	----

Außer Mathe habe ich auch Chemie.

Besides math, I have chemistry too.

55

aus	außer	bei	mit	nach	seit	von	zu
-----	-------	-----	-----	------	------	-----	----

Wir fliegen mit United nach Irland.

We're flying to Ireland on United.

56

aus	außer	bei	mit	nach	seit	von	zu
-----	-------	-----	-----	------	------	-----	----

Zum Frühstück gibt es frische Brötchen.

For breakfast, there are fresh rolls.

57

aus	außer	bei	mit	nach	seit	von	zu
-----	-------	-----	-----	------	------	-----	----

Das Buch ist von einem deutschen Autor.

The book is by a German author.

58

aus	außer	bei	mit	nach	seit	von	zu
-----	-------	-----	-----	------	------	-----	----

Außer meiner Oma sind wir alle hier.

Except for my grandma, we're all here.

59

aus	außer	bei	mit	nach	seit	von	zu
-----	-------	-----	-----	------	------	-----	----

Sie ist beim Friseur.

She's at the hairdresser's.

60

aus	außer	bei	mit	nach	seit	von	zu
-----	-------	-----	-----	------	------	-----	----

Nach dem Mittagessen gehen wir spazieren.

After lunch, we'll go for a walk.

61

aus	außer	bei	mit	nach	seit	von	zu
-----	-------	-----	-----	------	------	-----	----

Er wohnt seit zehn Jahren in Potsdam.

He's been living in Potsdam for ten years.

62

aus	außer	bei	mit	nach	seit	von	zu
-----	-------	-----	-----	------	------	-----	----

Lars geht nach dem Unterricht nach Hause.

Lars is going home after class.

63

64

Das Ende!