

Forming Questions

Forming a question in German is just like forming a question in English. There are two types of questions. The first is a **specific question**. That means that you are asking for a specific piece of information.

These questions begin with a question word (interrogative) and then the verb is second.

- What is your name?
- Where do you live?
- Who are you?
- When does school start?
- How do you get to school?

In German, the question words are

- Was (What)
- Wo (Where)
- Wer (Who)
- Wann (When)
- Wie (How)

So far we can ask:

- Wie heißt du?
- Wie heißt das Mädchen?
- Wie heißt der Mann?

Pay attention to how the question is formed!

Notice that the question word comes first and the verb follows it!

The second type of question is a **general question**. They are also called yes or no questions!

This means that you can answer the question with a yes or a no.

Heißt du Jens?

Heißt du Frau Kammann?

Both of these questions can be answer with a ja (yes) or a nein (no).

*Notice that both of the questions are formed by putting the verb first and the subject second. (This is called inverted word order.)