

es enttäuscht mich  
I'm disappointed  
es erstaunt mich  
I'm astonished  
es freut mich I'm glad

es gefällt mir I'm pleased  
es interessiert mich  
I'm interested  
es tut mir Leid I'm sorry  
es wundert mich I'm surprised

The *es* is normally dropped in the following expressions:  
mir ist kalt/warm (es ist mir kalt/warm) I'm cold/warm  
mir ist schlecht/übel (es ist mir schlecht/übel) I'm feeling sick  
da fällt mir ein/mir fällt ein it occurs to me

## 29.2 *es* as a substitute subject

*Es* may be placed at the beginning of a clause in order to emphasize the true subject. In these cases English uses expressions like *there is/are*:

**Es kommen** 200 Gäste. *There are 200 guests coming.*  
(Instead of: 200 Gäste kommen.)  
es bleiben *there remain*  
es gehen *there are ... going*  
es ist/sind *there is/are*

*Es* also occasionally replaces the 'true subject', mainly in passive and reflexive constructions. English generally prefers an active construction, often with *we, you* or *people*.

**Es wurde viel gegessen.** *People ate a lot.*  
(Instead of: Die Leute aßen viel.)  
**Es ließ sich** nichts mehr *There was nothing more*  
machen. *that could be done.*  
(Instead of: Wir konnten nichts mehr machen.)

However, *es* can be omitted if another word or phrase takes the initial position:

Gestern wurde viel *People ate a lot yesterday.*  
gegessen.  
Hier darf nicht geraucht *You are not allowed to smoke*  
werden. *here.*

# 30 Verbs and cases

Both English and German have transitive and intransitive verbs (marked in most dictionaries as *v.t.* and *v.i.* respectively). Transitive verbs can take a direct object, whereas intransitive verbs cannot.

## 30.1 Verbs + accusative object

Most German verbs can take a direct object in the accusative:  
Ich esse **einen Salat.** *I'll have a salad.*  
Jetzt lesen wir **den Roman.** *Now we'll read the novel.*

## 30.2 Verbs + dative and accusative objects

Some verbs can take two objects: an indirect object (in the dative) and a direct object (in the accusative):

Wir bieten **unseren** *We offer our customers*  
**Kunden (dat.) einen** *excellent service.*  
**exzellenten Service (acc.).**

The most common verbs normally used with two objects are:

(an)bieten	<i>to offer</i>	mitteilen	<i>to inform</i>
bringen	<i>to bring</i>	schenken	<i>to give</i>
beweisen	<i>to prove</i>		<i>(as a present)</i>
empfehlen	<i>to recommend</i>	schicken	<i>to send</i>
erzählen	<i>to tell</i>	schreiben	<i>to write</i>
geben	<i>to give</i>	schulden	<i>to owe</i>
gönnen	<i>to grant</i>	verkaufen	<i>to sell</i>
kaufen	<i>to buy</i>	zeigen	<i>to show</i>
leihen	<i>to lend</i>		

## 30.3 Verbs + dative object

Some German verbs can only take an object in the dative. The construction is in most cases quite different from the English equivalent.