

Norwegian Language Essentials Cheatsheet

A quick reference guide to essential Norwegian grammar, vocabulary, and phrases, designed to help you get started with the language.



Basic Grammar

Nouns (Substantiv)

Gender	Norwegian nouns have three genders: masculine (maskulin), feminine (feminin), and neuter (intetkjønn). In Bokmål, masculine and feminine genders are often merged into a common gender (felleskjønn).
Articles	Definite articles are suffixes attached to the noun (e.g., [huset] - the house). Indefinite articles precede the noun (e.g., [et hus] - a house).
Singular Definite	Masculine: -en (e.g., bilen - the car) Feminine: -a (e.g., boka - the book, Bokmål can use -en) Neuter: -et (e.g., huset - the house)
Singular Indefinite	Masculine: en (e.g., en bil - a car) Feminine: ei/en (e.g., ei bok - a book, en bok also correct in Bokmål) Neuter: et (e.g., et hus - a house)
Plural Definite	-ene (e.g., bilene - the cars, bøkene - the books, husene - the houses)
Plural Indefinite	Usually -er or -r (e.g., biler - cars, bøker - books, hus - houses)

Verbs (Verb)

Passive Voice	Often formed by adding -s (e.g., snakkes - is spoken).
Perfect Tense	har + past participle (e.g., Jeg har snakket - I have spoken).
Future Tense	skal + infinitive (e.g., Jeg skal snakke - I will speak).
Past Tense	Regular verbs often add <code>-et</code> , <code>-te</code> , <code>-de</code> to the stem (e.g., <code>snakket</code> - spoke).
Present Tense	Often formed by adding -r to the infinitive stem (e.g., snakker - speaks, is speaking).
Infinitive	Verbs in the infinitive form usually start with å (to) (e.g., å snakke - to speak).

Adjectives (Adjektiv)

Agreement	Adjectives must agree in gender and number with the noun they modify.
Masculine/Feminine Singular	Basic form (e.g., en stor bil - a big car, ei stor bok - a big book).
Neuter Singular	Add -t (e.g., et stort hus - a big house).
Plural	Add -e (e.g., store biler - big cars).
Definite Form	Add -e (e.g., den store bilen - the big car).

Essential Phrases

Greetings and Introductions

Hello	Hallo
Good morning	God morgen
Good day/Good afternoon	God dag
Good evening	God kveld
Good night	God natt
Goodbye	Ha det (short), Farvel (formal)
My name is	Jeg heter
What is your name?	Hva heter du?

Basic Communication

Yes	Ja
No	Nei
Please	Vær så snill
Thank you	Takk
You're welcome	Værsågod
Excuse me	Unnskyld
I don't understand	Jeg forstår ikke
Do you speak English?	Snakker du engelsk?

Essential Questions

How are you?	Hvordan har du det?
I'm fine, thank you	Jeg har det bra, takk
Where is?	Hvor er?
How much does it cost?	Hvor mye koster det?
What time is it?	Hvor mye er klokken?
Can you help me?	Kan du hjelpe meg?

Vocabulary

Basic Words

Man	Mann
Woman	Kvinne
Child	Barn
House	Hus
Car	Bil
Food	Mat
Water	Vann
Day	Dag
Night	Natt

Common Verbs

To be	Å være
To have	Å ha
To do	Å gjøre
To say	Å si
To go	Å gå
To know	Å vite / Å kjenne
To think	Å tenke
To see	Å se
To come	Å komme

Numbers

One	En/Ett
Two	То
Three	Tre
Four	Fire
Five	Fem
Six	Seks
Seven	Sju/Syv
Eight	Åtte
Nine	Ni
Ten	Ti

Pronunciation Guide

Page 1 of 2 https://cheatsheetshero.com

Vowels Consonants Stress

а	Similar to 'a' in 'father'.
е	Similar to 'e' in 'bed'.
i	Similar to 'ee' in 'see'.
0	Similar to 'o' in 'note'.
u	Similar to 'oo' in 'moon'.
у	Similar to the French 'u' or German 'ü'.
æ	Similar to 'a' in 'cat'.
Ø	Similar to the German 'ö'.
å	Similar to 'aw' in 'paw'.

kj and	Pronounced like the 'sh' in 'ship'.
rs	Often pronounced as a single sound, similar to a retroflex 's'.
rd, rl, rn, rt	Retroflex consonants, where the tongue curls back slightly.
g	Hard 'g' as in 'go' before a, o, u. Soft 'g' as in 'yes' before i, y, ei, øy and at the end of words.

Stress is usually on the first syllable of a word.