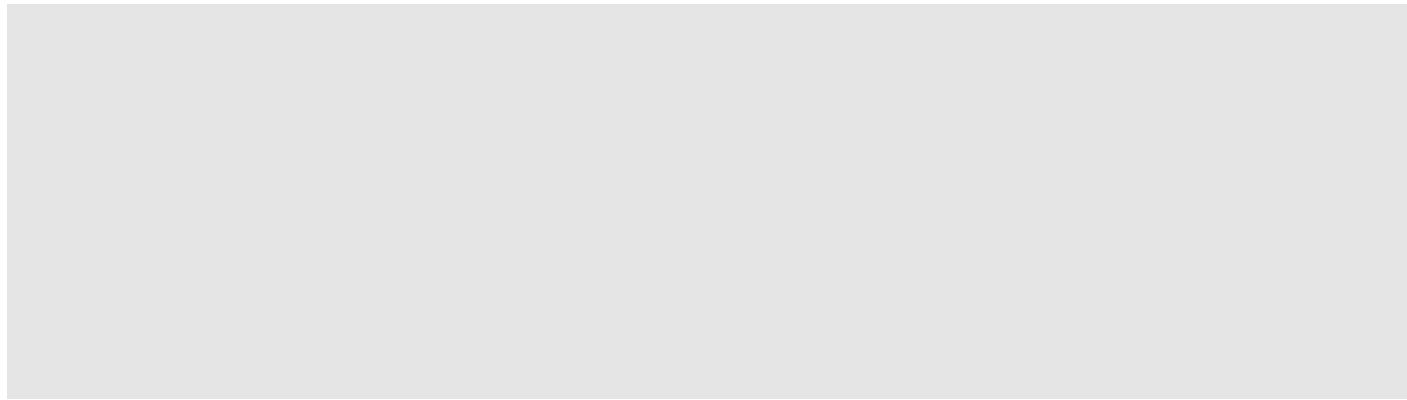


The Participle as Adjective



Present Participle (*Partizip Präsens*)

- The present participle in German is mainly used as adjective with adjective endings, indicating an activity that is happening at the moment:
- It is formed by adding a “-**d**” to the verb:
 - *schlafen* → *schlafend***d**
 - *singen* → *singend***d**
 - *schreien* → *schreiend***d**
- and an **adjective ending**:
 - *das schlafend**e** Kind* (the sleeping child)
 - *ein singend**er** Vogel* (a singing bird)

Reminder!

ACHTUNG Don't mix this form up with the English progressive tenses with an auxiliary and present participle:

- he is singing (present progressive)
- they were dancing (past progressive)

Those forms do NOT exist in German. Instead, they are expressed in German by a one word verb whose tense corresponds to the tense of the auxiliary:

- *Er singt.*
- *Sie tanzten.*

Back to the Present Participle

- It is almost exclusively used as an adjective or an adverb, describing an activity that is happening at the same moment as the activity described by the verb.
- When used as adverb:
 - *Die Dame lief schreiend zurück ins Restaurant.* (The lady is running back to the restaurant. The lady is screaming at the same time.)
- When used as adjective, add the appropriate adjective ending:
 - *Der schwimmende Otter fängt einen Fisch.*
 - *Alex hat dem lachenden Kind ein Eis geschenkt.*
 - *Schlafende Hunde soll man nicht wecken.*

...and the Past Participle (*Partizip Perfekt*)

You already know the **past participle** from using the perfect tense:

- *Ich habe heute lange geschlafen.* (irregular verb)
- *Er hat sein Bett gemacht.* (regular verb)

and from using passive:

- *Dieses Buch wird von vielen Student*innen gelesen.*

You can use the past participle as adjective to describe an activity that has already happened by adding an adjective ending:

- Tante Marga hat jeden Mittwoch Apfelkuchen **gebacken**.

Der frisch **gebackene** Apfelkuchen schmeckte sehr lecker.