

# Articles

- In English, there is a definite article “**the**” and an indefinite article “**a, an.**” If you say, “Hand me the book,” you have a definite book in mind. If you say, “Hand me a book,” you don’t seem to care which one – just any old book will do.
- Spanish has definite and indefinite articles, too, but the Spanish articles have number (singular and plural) and gender (masculine and feminine).

## Definite Article

Masculine		Feminine	
Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
el	los	la	las

## Indefinite Article

Masculine		Feminine	
Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
un	unos	una	unas

- When learning nouns in Spanish, it is best to learn the definite article with the noun. That way, you can be sure of the gender of the noun. This is especially true if a noun ends in a letter other than an **-o** or and **-a**, or if they happen be an exception to the rule.

El coche –the car  
El examen – the test  
La clase – the class  
La lección – the lesson

- The masculine singular form of the definite and indefinite articles are used before feminine nouns beginning with an accented **-a** or **-ha**. This is done only in the singular form.

el agua – water      but      las aguas  
el águila – eagle      but      las águilas  
un alma – soul      but      unas almas  
un hacha – axe      but      unas hachas