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List 10 masculine and feminine nouns in french

A noun is a word that represents a person, place, or thing, whether concrete (e.g., chair, dog) or abstract (idea, happiness). In French, all nouns have a gender—they are either masculine or feminine. The gender of some nouns makes sense (homme [man] is masculine, femme [woman] is feminine) but others don't: the words personne [person] and victime [victim] are always feminine, even when the person or victim is a man! It is very important to learn a noun's gender along with the noun itself because articles, adjectives, some pronouns, and some verbs have to agree with nouns; that is, they change depending on the gender of the noun they modify. The best way to learn the gender of French nouns is to make your vocabulary lists with the appropriate definite article or indefinite article. That is, rather than a list like this: livre - bookchaise - chair Make French vocabulary lists like this: un livre - bookune chaise - chair This will help you learn the gender with the noun. The gender is part of the noun and you will be much better off learning it now, as a beginner, than trying to go back after years of study and memorizing the genders of all the words you've already learned (we speak from experience). Also, there are quite a few French nouns with different meanings depending on whether they are masculine or feminine. French nouns are always masculine or feminine, and you usually can't determine the gender just by looking at the word or thinking about what it means. While there are some tendencies in the gender of French nouns - see the table below - there are always exceptions.

Please don't use these patterns as a way to avoid learning the genders of nouns - just learn each word as gender + noun and then you'll know them forever. Nearly all French nouns have different forms for singular and plural. In addition, many nouns that refer to people and animals have both a masculine and a feminine form. Ending is usually: -age masculine Exceptions: une cage, une image, une nage, une page, une plage, une rage -eau masculine Exceptions: l'eau, la peau -ée feminine Exceptions: un lycée, un musée -ion feminine Exceptions: un avion, un bastion, billion, un million, un lion, un scion -té feminine Exceptions: un comité, un invité In addition, most countries and names that end in e are feminine. Most French nouns become feminine according to regular patterns, but there are a number of irregular nouns, based on the final letter(s) of the masculine singular noun. Nouns that end in a vowel plus L, N, or T usually become feminine by doubling the consonant before adding E. Ending: en > enne Noun: le gardien (guard)Masculine singular le gardienFeminine singular la gardienneMasculine plural les gardiensFeminine plural les gardiennes Ending: el > elle Noun: le colonel (colonel)Masculine singular le colonelFeminine singular la colonelleMasculine plural les colonellesFeminine plural les colonelles Nouns that end in er need a grave accent: Ending: er > ère Noun: le boulanger (baker)Masculine singular le boulangerFeminine singular la boulangèreMasculine plural les boulangersFeminine plural les boulangères The final letters eur have two possible irregular feminine endings: Ending: eur > euse Noun: un danseur (dancer)Masculine singular un danseurFeminine singular une danseuseMasculine plural des danseursFeminine plural des danseuses Ending: eur > rice Noun: un acteur (actor)Masculine singular un acteurFeminine singular une actriceMasculine plural des acteursFeminine plural des actrices Notes These rules are similar for making adjectives feminine The rules for making nouns feminine apply only to people and some animals. They do not apply to objects, which have only one form: masculine or feminine. Compound nouns have their own gender rules. Most French nouns become plural according to regular patterns, but there are a number of irregular nouns, based on the final letter(s) of the singular noun. The endings al and ail change to aux in the plural: Noun: un cheval (horse)Masculine singular un chevalMasculine plural des chevaux Noun: un travail (task, job)Masculine singular un travailMasculine plural des travaux The

endings au, eau, and eu take an X for plural: Noun: un tuyau (pipe, tip)Masculine singular un tuyauMasculine plural des tuyaux Noun: un château (castle)Masculine singular un châteauMasculine plural des châteaux Noun: un feu (fire)Masculine singular un feuMasculine plural des feux Most modern English speakers don't wonder if their kitchen table is feminine, or if their winter coat is masculine. However, when you're learning French, these are important questions. In French, virtually every noun or adjective has a set gender: These words are either considered masculine or feminine. Grammatical gender is simply a way of grouping words. If you've ever studied another Romance language, such as Spanish or Italian, this idea will already be familiar to you. We'll examine the basic rules of French gender.

Masculine	Exemple	English	Feminine	Exemple	English
un serpent	a snake	une affirmation	an affirmation		
un trait	a drawing	une légende	a legend		
un chapeau	a hat	une cocotte	a casserole		
un mariage	a wedding	une université	a university		
un journal	a (daily) news	une jumelle	a twin (girl)		
un professeur	a professor	une passion	a passion		
un médecin	a doctor	une cuisinière	a cook (woman)		
un docteur	a pupil	une figure	a figure		
un soleil	a festival	une abîme	a hole		
un festival	a festival	une blagueuse	a blagger		
un garage	a garage	une mouche	a mosquito		

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Ending: en > enne Noun: le gardien (guard)Masculine singular le gardienFeminine singular la gardienneMasculine plural les gardiensFeminine plural les gardiennes Ending: el > elle Noun: le colonel (colonel)Masculine singular le colonelFeminine singular la colonelleMasculine plural les colonellesFeminine plural les colonelles Nouns that end in er need a grave accent: Ending: er > ère Noun: le boulanger (baker)Masculine singular le boulangerFeminine singular la boulangèreMasculine plural les boulangersFeminine plural les boulangères The final letters eur have two possible irregular feminine endings: Ending: eur > euse Noun: un danseur (dancer)Masculine singular un danseurFeminine singular une danseuseMasculine plural des danseursFeminine plural des danseuses Ending: eur > rice Noun: un acteur (actor)Masculine singular un acteurFeminine singular une actriceMasculine plural des acteursFeminine plural des actrices Notes These rules are similar for making adjectives feminine The rules for making nouns feminine apply only to people and some animals. 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In French, virtually every noun or adjective has a set gender: These words are either considered masculine or feminine. Grammatical gender is simply a way of grouping words. If you've ever studied another Romance language, such as Spanish or Italian, this idea will already be familiar to you. We'll examine the basic rules of French gender. Plus, we'll show you how to easily recognize most feminine and masculine nouns. Once we have this foundation in place, we'll look at some nouns that can be either masculine or feminine — or both. Then we'll talk a little about how to practice French gender rules. Alons-y, mes amis ! (Let's go, my friends!) Gender in French affects which adjectives you use with nouns, as well as which pronouns you use to describe groups of people. In French, nouns and their adjectives — including words for “a” and “the” — must match each other in both gender and number. Making these matches means learning different forms for common words. We'll take these one by one. Definite Articles: Four Kinds of “The” Technically, there are only three kinds of “the” in French: la, le, and les. However, for singular words that begin with vowels in French, like étoile (star) and eau (water), we replace the vowel in le or la with an apostrophe. Noun Gender Number Word for “The” Feminine Singular la Masculine Singular le Feminine or Masculine Plural des (some) Like the French words for “the” and “a,” descriptive words for characteristics like the size, shape, or color of a noun need to match that noun's gender and number. For singular feminine words, you'll generally need to add an -e to adjectives that end in a consonant. Watch out for additional changes in words like gros (big, heavy), which adds an -se to form grosse, the feminine singular. You get a free pass with singular adjectives that already end in an -e, such as mince (thin) or rapide (fast). This group includes color names such as rouge (red), jaune (yellow), rose (pink), and orange (orange). For most plurals, regardless of other changes, you'll need to add an -s (or, sometimes, an -x) to the end of the adjective. Words like beau (handsome, nice) can change considerably: Beau transforms into belle (beautiful) for feminine singular. In front of a masculine singular noun beginning with a vowel or a mute h-, beau becomes bel... as you'll see in un bel arbre (a nice tree) or un bel homme (a handsome man).

Adjective & Meaning Masculine Feminine Singular Plural Singular Plural grand (large, tall) grand grands grande grandes petit (small) petit petits petite petites beau (handsome, beautiful) beau / bel (before a vowel, including a “mute” h-) beaux belle belles joli (pretty; nice) joli jolis jolie jolies mignon (cute, sweet) mignon mignons mignonne mignonne gros (large; heavy; fat) gros gros grosse grosses rapide (quick) rapide rapides rapide rapides lent (slow) lent lents lente lentes méchant (mean, nasty) méchant méchants méchante méchantes gentil (nice, kind) gentil gentils gentille gentilles âgé (old) âgé âgés âgée âgées jeune (young) jeune jeunes jeune jeunes noir (black) noir noirs noire noires blanc (white) blanc blancs blanche blanches vert (green) vert verts verte vertes bleu (blue) bleu bleus bleue bleues rouge (red) rouge rouges rouge rouges In English, our possessives match the person who owns something. We would say, “She has her opinion, and he has his opinion.” Even though both the man and the woman each have an opinion, we use a different word in each case to show possession of their respective opinions. In French, the possessive adjective you'll choose must correspond to both the owner of the object, and to the gender and number of the noun. Interestingly enough, the same set of words (son / sa / ses) is used to convey both his and hers in French. So, we would say, Elle a sa opinion, et il a sa opinion.” (She has her opinion, and he has his opinion.) The same is true if something is theirs in French, even though French has a distinct masculine “they” (ils) and feminine “they” (elles): Ils ont leurs opinions, et elles ont leurs opinions.” (They [masculine] have their opinions, and they [feminine] have their opinions.) Meaning Masculine Singular Feminine Singular Masculine / Feminine Plural my mon ma use mon before a vowel, like mon activité (my activity) mes your [singular informal] ton ta use ton before a vowel, like ton épaule (your shoulder) tes his / hers son sa use son before a vowel, like son occupation (his / her occupation) ses our notre nos your [formal / plural] votre vos their leur leurs Sometimes called the “demonstrative adjective,” ce is a word that can mean either “this” or “that” in French — or, in the plural, “these” or “those.” Ce changes in three different ways to match gender and number: Adds a -t for the feminine singular: cette classe (this class) Adds an -s for the masculine and feminine plurals: ces trucs (those things [masculine]) ces assiettes (these plates [feminine]) The personal pronouns you use to describe a whole group of people (or objects) in French depend upon who (or what) is in the group: Groups of all females or all feminine objects are elles (the feminine “they”) Groups of all males or all masculine objects are ils (the masculine “they”) Groups of any size with one or more masculine members are ils (the masculine “they”) This last rule is probably the hardest to grasp.



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Noun	Meaning when masculine	Meaning when feminine
crêpe	crepe	pancake
critique	critic	criticism
livre	book	pound sterling
manche*	handle	sleeve
mémoire	research paper (thesis)	memory
mode	method	fashion
moule	moult	muschel
œuvre	complete works	work (of art)
pendule	pendulum	clock
physique	physique	physics
poêle	stove	frying-pan
poste	post, job	post-office
tour	turn, trick, tour	tower
voile	veil	sail, sailing

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cases cases, loanwords from other languages have no established French gender. For instance: oasis (oasis) réglisse (licorice) Sometimes, the same exact word can mean something different, based on which gender it takes. Word Feminine Meaning(s) Masculine Meaning(s) boum party explosion, bang; [colloquially] success barde fatty bacon; fat surrounding meat poet, bard cache hiding place disk cache / web cache (computers) cartouche cartridge [like the ink cartridge for a printer] oval-shaped, ancient Egyptian design, enclosing a royal name chèvre goat [animal] goat cheese crème cream coffee with cream crêpe thin pancake, either sweet or savory thin tissue or fabric diesel diesel-fueled vehicle diesel fuel enseigne sign; flag, banner ensign (military rank) espace space [in printing] room, space faux scythe [related to faucher (to cut down, to mow)] forgery, fake finale final round(s) of a sports competition closing musical number foudre lightning an enormous vat used in winemaking geste epic poem [such as La chanson de Roland (The Song of Roland)] gesture [as in a hand motion; also used in the phrase les gestes barrières (social distancing and hygiene)] greffe graft, transplant legal office, such as office of the court clerk livre pound [weight / currency] book manche sleeve handle manœuvre operation, maneuver laborer mort death dead body mémoire memory, remembrance memo, dissertation merci mercy thanks mi-temps half-time [sports] part-time [work] mode fashion way, method, method nocturne nocturnal gathering or sports match; late-night store opening nocturne [musical form] œuvre task; specific piece of work body of work [of a writer, artist, etc.] office pantry office, bureau ombre shadow a type of salmon orange orange [fruit] orange [color] physique physics [academic discipline] physique, physical appearance poche pocket paperback book poêle frying pan stove politique politics; policy politician poste post office; snail mail post, job; radio or TV set pub TV / radio commercials [short for publicité] pub, bar, tavern somme total amount, sum nap, siesta, snooze tour tower; high-rise; rook [in chess] stroll, run, walk; drive; ride; turn vase mud, silt vase voile sail [as used on a ship] veil Masculine and feminine in French can seem completely arbitrary. However, there are clues like topical categories and word endings that can help you identify French genders. Use online "French adjective agreement exercises" to help you sharpen your skills. Write out simple French sentences or phrases that match nouns with their proper adjectives. Practice describing objects or people with adjectives during your French conversations. Over time, as you read and hear more French, it will become much easier to remember the genders of various nouns — as well as the corresponding adjective forms. Bonne chance (good luck) and bon apprentissage (happy learning)! Just here for the exercises? Click here. Unlike English, French nouns have a gender (genre): they can be masculine (masculin) or feminine (féminin). There are different ways to find out a noun's gender: we can look in the dictionary and check for the abbreviations m. (masculine) or f. (feminine); we can check the noun's ending, which generally gives an indication whether the noun is masculine or feminine; or we can look at the noun's article. Nouns with le or un are masculine, and nouns with la or une are feminine. You should always learn nouns together with their articles to be sure of their gender. Learn all about the gender of nouns in French grammar with Lingolia's quick and easy examples, then put your knowledge to the test in the free exercises. For people and animals, the gender of the noun usually corresponds to the biological gender. Certain animal nouns have a fixed gender and refer to both males and females. To specify the animal's biological gender, we add the word mâle (male) or femelle (female) before or after the noun. Example: La souris mâle.The male mouse. La femelle du crocodile.The female crocodile. However, there are also nouns that have one form for both the masculine and the feminine. Example: un/une touristea tourist Certain job titles do not have a separate feminine form because they already end in -e. Examples: un/une journalistea journalist un/une librairea bookseller un/une interprètean interpreter un/une ministrea minister Likewise, there are other job titles that only exist in the masculine form but refer to both men and women. Examples: un/une ingénieuran engineer un/une professeura teacher un/une chirurgiena surgeon un/une médecin doctor The majority of professions that were previously only associated with men now have their own feminine form, except for those ending in -e or -eur. However, the use of these feminine forms is not very common, not is it compulsory. Examples: un magistrat - une magistrate/une magistratmagistrate un écrivain - une écrivaine/une écrivaina writer Exception: un auteur - une auteurean actor/actress Certain professions only exist in the masculine form (grammatically!) but describe both men and women: Examples: un plombiera plumber un mécaniciena mechanic Likewise, there are some professions that only have a feminine form in French grammar: Examples: une sage-femmea midwife une hôtesse de l'airair hostess (masculine form: un steward) une femme de ménagecleaner (masculine form: un technicien de surface) } Some job titles only exist in the masculine because their meaning changes when they are used in the feminine form. Examples: le médecin (a doctor) — la médecine (medicine) le jardinier (a gardener) — la jardinière (window box) All countries ending with -e are feminine. Examples: la FranceFrance! l'AllemagneGermanyla ChineChina la BretagneBrittanyla ProvenceProvence All countries ending with a different vowel or a consonant are masculine. Examples: le CanadaCanada le PérouPeru le MarocMorocco le JaponJapanle PortugalPortugal Improve your French with Lingolia. Each grammar topic comes with one free exercise where you can review the basics, as well as many more Lingolia Plus exercises where you can practise according to your level. Check your understanding by hovering over the info bubbles for simple explanations and handy tips. Grammatical Gender - mixed exercises Le genre - mélange (1) A1 Le genre - mélange (2) A1 Le genre - les métiers (1) A1 Le genre - les métiers (2) A1 Le genre - les pays A1 Le genre - la famille A1 Le genre - les vêtements A1 Le genre - les animaux A1 Le genre - la météo A1 Le genre - homonymes, homographes, homophones B2 A1Beginner A2Elementary B1Intermediate B2Upper intermediate C1Advanced