

1. Some Basic Phrases

God morgon
Good Morning

God kväll
Good Evening

Hej då / Adjö (more formal)
Goodbye

Tack (så mycket)
Thank you (very much)

Ja / Nej
Yes / No

Hur är det? / Hur har du det?
How are you?

Bra
Good / Fine

Vad heter du?
What's your name?

Jag heter...
I am called...

Trevligt att träffas!
Pleased to meet you!

Varifrån kommer du?
Where are you from?

Var bor du?
Where do you live?

Hur gammal är du?
How old are you?

Talar du svenska?
Do you speak Swedish?

Hej / Goddag
Hello / Good Day

God natt
Good Night

Snälla
Please

Ingen orsak / Varsågod
Don't mention it / You're welcome

Herr / Fru / Fröken
Mister / Misses / Miss

Hur mår du?
How are you? (How are you feeling?)

Inte så bra.
Not so good

Vad är ditt namn?
What's your name?

Mitt namn är...
My name is...

Välkommen!
Welcome!

Jag kommer från...
I'm from...

Jag bor i...
I live in...

Jag är ___ år (gammal).
I am ___ years old.

Jag talar engelska.
I speak English.

danska, norska, franska, italienska, spanska, tyska, holländska, ryska, japanska
Danish, Norwegian, French, Italian, Spanish, German, Dutch, Russian, Japanese

Ja, lite grann.
Yes, a little bit.

Nej, inte alls.
No, not at all.

Jag förstår [inte.]
I [don't] understand.

Jag vet [inte.]
I [don't] know.

Ursäkta / Förlåt
Excuse me / Pardon me

Ha det så bra!
Take care!

Vi ses senare / snart
See you later / soon

Hej / Hej då
Hi / Bye

Jag älskar dig.
I love you.

Jag saknar dig.
I miss you.

2. Pronunciation

Swedish letter(s)	English sound
ch	sh
ck	k
g	g before a, o, u, å, or unstressed e
g	j before e, i, y, ä, ö and after l or r
g	k before t
gj	j
k	soft ch sound, before e, i, y, ä, ö
q	k
sch	sh
ti(on)	sh
tj	soft ch sound
v, w	v
x	ks
z	s

3. Alphabet

a ah **k** kaw **u** ooh

b	bay	l	el	v	vay
c	say	m	em	x	eks
d	day	n	en	y	ew
e	ay	o	oh	z	say-tah
f	ef	p	pay	å	aw (with lips rounded)
g	gay	q	koo	ä	eh (as in bed)
h	haw	r	air	ö	er (with lips rounded)
i	ee	s	ess		
j	yee	t	tay		

4. Nouns and Cases

Nouns in Swedish have two genders, common and neuter, which adjectives must agree with when modifying nouns. These genders are signified by the indefinite articles: **en** and **ett**. In the vocabulary lists, a noun followed by (n) means that it is a neuter noun and it takes the indefinite article ett. The majority of nouns in Swedish are common gender, so they take the indefinite article en.

The only case of nouns that is used in Swedish is the genitive (showing possession), and it is easily formed by adding an -s to the noun. This is comparable to adding -'s in English to show possession. However, if the noun already ends in -s, then you add nothing (unlike English where we add -' or -'s). **Anders bok** = Anders's book

5. Articles and Demonstratives

There are two indefinite articles (corresponding to a and an) in Swedish: **en** and **ett**. En is used with most of the nouns (words denoting people almost always use en), but you will just have to learn which article goes with which noun. The definite article (the) is not a separate word like in most other languages. It is simply a form of the indefinite article attached to the end of the noun. Note that en words ending in a vowel retain that vowel and add an -n instead of adding -en. And ett words ending in -e just add a -t.

En words (common)				Ett words (neuter)			
Indefinite		Definite		Indefinite		Definite	
en banan	a banana	bananen	the banana	ett bord	a table	bordet	the table
en stol	a chair	stolen	the chair	ett kök	a kitchen	köket	the kitchen
en gata	a street	gatan	the street	ett äpple	an apple	äpplet	the apple

This, that, these and those are expressed in Swedish by using **den, det** or **de** plus the word **här** (here) and **där** (there). The noun is always in the definite form after these demonstratives. And if any adjectives follow the demonstrative, they must add an -a to the ending.

	with en words	with ett words	with plural words
<i>this / these</i>	den här biljetten - this ticket	det här tåget - this train	de här biljetterna - these tickets
<i>that / those</i>	den där biljetten - that ticket	det där tåget - that train	de där tågen - those trains

6. Subject & Object Pronouns

Subject & Object Pronouns

jag

yah

I

mig (mej)

meh

me

du

doo

you (singular)

dig (dej)

deh

you

han

hahn

he

honom

ho-nohm

him

hon

hohn

she

henne

heh-neh

her

den

den

it (with en words)

den

den
it

det
deh

it (with ett words)

det
deh
it

man
mahn

one
en
en
one

vi
vee

we
oss
ohss
us

ni
nee

you (plural)
er
ehr
you

de (dom)
dahm

they
dem (dom)
dahm
them

Note: **Man** can be translated as one, we, they or the people in general. When referring to nouns as *it*, you use **den** for en nouns, and **det** for ett nouns. Formerly, **du** was the informal you and **ni** was the formal, but these distinctions are rarely used anymore. The forms in parentheses are the informal ways of spelling these words, which is closer to the actual pronunciation.

7. To Be and to Have

The present and past tenses of verbs in Swedish are very simple to conjugate. All the forms are the same for each personal pronoun. The infinitive of the verb *to be* in Swedish is **vara**, and the conjugated present tense form is **är** and the past tense is **var**. The infinitive of the verb *to have* is **ha**, and the conjugated present tense form is **har** and the past tense is **hade**.

vara - to be				ha - to have			
I am	jag är	I was	jag var	I have	jag har	I had	jag hade
you are	du är	you were	du var	you have	du har	you had	du hade
he is	han är	he was	han var	he has	han har	he had	han hade
she is	hon är	she was	hon var	she has	hon har	she had	hon hade
it is	den är	it was	den var	it has	den har	it had	den hade
it is	det är	it was	det var	it has	det har	it had	det hade
one is	man är	one was	man var	one has	man har	one had	man hade
we are	vi är	we were	vi var	we have	vi har	we had	vi hade
you are	ni är	you were	ni var	you have	ni har	you had	ni hade
they are	de är	they were	de var	they have	de har	they had	de hade

To form the future tense of verbs, just add **ska** before the infinitive. **Jag ska vara** = I will be; **hon ska ha** = she will have; etc.

8. Useful Words

sometimes	ibland	already	redan
always	alltid	perhaps	kanske
never	aldrig	both	båda
often	ofta	some	någon, något, några
usually	oftast	again	igen, åter
now	nu	between	mellan
and	och	a lot, many	många
but	men	of course	naturligtvis
or	eller	a little	litegrann
very	mycket / väldigt	not at all	inte alls
here	här	almost	nästan
there	där	really?	verkligen
with	med	it is	det är
each other	varandra	there is/are	det finns

9. Question Words

Who	vem	Whose	vems
What	vad	Which	vilken, vilket, vilka
Why	varför	Where to	vart
When	när	Where from	varifrån
Where	var	How	hur

Which has three different forms depending on the gender and number of the noun that follows it. *Vilken* is used with en words, *vilket* is used with ett words and *vilka* is used with plural words.

10. Cardinal and Ordinal Numbers

0

noll

1

en, ett

1st

första

2

två

2nd

andra

3

tre

3rd

tredje

4

fyra

4th

fjärde

5

fem

5th

femte

6

sex

6th

sjätte

7

sju

7th

sjunde

8

åtta

8th

åttonde

9

nio

9th

nionde

10

tio

10th

tionde

11

elva

11th

elfte

12

tolv

12th

tolfte

13

tretton

13th

trettonde

14

fjorton

14th

fjortonde

15

femton

15th

femtonde

16

sexton

16th

sextonde

17

sjutton

17th

sjuttonde

18

arton

18th

artonde

19

nitton

19th

nittonde

20

tjugo

20th

tjugonde

21

tjugoen, tjuogoett

21st

tjugoförsta

22

tjugotvå

22nd

tjuogoandra

30

trettio

30th

trettionde

40

fyrtio

40th

fyrtionde

50

fentio

50th

fentionde

60

sextio

60th

sextionde

70

sjuttio

70th

sjuttionde

80

åttio

80th
åttionde
90
nittio
90th
nittionde
100
hundra
100th
hundra
1,000
tusen
1,000th
tusende
million
en miljon

billion
en miljard

trillion
en biljon

11. Days of the Week / Veckans dagar

Monday	måndag
Tuesday	tisdag
Wednesday	onsdag
Thursday	torsdag
Friday	fredag
Saturday	lördag
Sunday	söndag
day	dag
morning	morgon
afternoon	eftermiddag
evening	afton (before 6 pm) / kväll

night	natt
today	idag
tomorrow	imorgon
day after tomorrow	i övermorgon
tonight	ikväll
yesterday	igår
day before yesterday	i förrgår
last night	igår natt
week	vecka
weekend	helg
daily	daglig
weekly	veckolig

Note: To say "on" a certain day, use **på** before the day.

12. Months of the Year / Årets månader

January	januari
February	februari
March	mars
April	april
May	maj
June	juni
July	juli
August	augusti
September	september
October	oktober
November	november
December	december
month	månad
year	år
monthly	månatlig or var/varje månad
yearly	årlig

Note: To say "in" a certain month, use **i** before the month.

13. Seasons

Winter	vinter	in (the) winter	på vintern
Spring	vår	in (the) spring	på våren
Summer	sommar	in (the) summer	på sommaren
Fall	höst	in (the) fall	på hösten

Note: You can also use **i** before the names of the months to express *this*: **i vinter** = this winter

14. Directions

North

norr

Northeast

nordost

South

söder

Northwest

nordväst

East

öster

Southeast

sydost

West

väster

Southwest

sydväst

15. Colors

orange	orange, orangea
pink	rosa / skär, skärt, skära
purple	lila
blue	blå, blått, blåa
yellow	gul, gult, gula
red	röd, rött, röda
black	svart, svart, svarta
brown	brun, brunt, bruna

gray	grå, grått, gråa
white	vit, vitt, vita
green	grön, grönt, gröna

Note: Since colors are adjectives, most of them decline according to which noun they describe. The first word is used with en words, the second with ett words and the third with plural words. Some words remain the same for all three.

16. Time / Tid

What time is it?	Vad är klockan?
(It is) 2 AM	Klockan är två på natten
2 PM	14.00 (but said as två)
6:20	tjugo över sex
half past 3	halv fyra
quarter past 4	kvart över fyra
quarter to 5	kvart i fem
10 past 11	tio över elva
20 to 7	tjugo i sju
noon	mitt på dagen
midnight	midnatt
in the morning	på morgonen
in the evening	på kvällen
It's exactly...	den är precis
About/around 8.	omkring åtta
At 8.	klockan åtta
early	tidigt
late(r)	sent (senare)

17. Weather / Väder

How's the weather today?	Vad är det för väder idag?
It's cold	det är kallt
beautiful	vackert / fint
hot	jättevarmt
clear	klart

icy	isigt
warm	varmt
windy	blåsig
cloudy	molnigt
hazy	disigt
muggy	rått
humid	fuktigt
foggy	dimmigt
It's snowing	det snöar
It's raining	det regnar
It's freezing	det är kallt/kyligt

18. Family / Familj

Parents	föräldrar
Mother	mamma / mor / moder
Father	pappa / far / fader
Son	son
Daughter	dotter
Brother	bror
Sister	syster
Grandfather	farfar (father's father) / morfar (mother's father)
Grandmother	farmor (father's mother) / mormor (mother's mother)
Grandson	sonson (son's son) / dotterson (daughter's son)
Granddaughter	sondotter (son's daughter) / dotterdotter (daughter's daughter)
Niece	brorsdotter (brother's daughter) / systerdotter (sister's daughter)
Nephew	brorson (brother's son) / systerson (sister's son)
Cousin	kusin
Uncle	farbror (father's brother) / morbror (mother's brother)
Aunt	faster (father's sister) / moster (mother's sister)
Boy	pojke
Girl	flicka
Child / Baby	barn / baby / bebis / spädbarn
Adult	vuxen (n)
Man	man

Woman	kvinna
Friend (m)	vän
Friend (f)	väninna

19. To Know People and Facts

	känna - to know	veta - to know
	people	facts
<i>present</i>	känner	vet
<i>past</i>	kände	visste
<i>future</i>	ska känna	ska veta

20. Formation of Plural Nouns

An **en** word takes one of the following endings when it is pluralized: **or, ar, er**. An **ett** word takes an **n** or **no ending at all**.

Indefinite Plural

En words that end in -a	drop -a and add -or	en klocka - klockor	a watch - (some) watches
En words that end in -e	drop -e and add -ar	en pojke - pojkar	a boy - (some) boys
En words with stress on last vowel	add -er	en kamrat - kamrater	a friend - (some) friends
Ett words that end in a vowel	add -n	ett ställe - ställen	a place - (some) places
Ett words that end in a consonant	no ending	ett rum - rum	a room - (some) rooms

To form the definite plural, you must first form the indefinite plural and then add these endings to that word.

Indef. Plural En words	add -na	klockor - klockorna	(some) watches - the watches
Indef. Plural Ett words that end in a vowel	add -a	ställen - ställena	(some) places - the places
Indef. Plural Ett words that end in a consonant	add -en	rum - rummen	(some) rooms - the rooms

There are some nouns that change their vowel in the plural. These nouns usually take the **-er** ending when forming the indefinite plural.

en natt - nätter

a night - nights
en bonde - bönder
 a farmer - farmers
en stad - städer
 a town - towns
en ledamot - ledamöter
 a member - members
en hand - händer
 a hand - hands
en fot - fötter
 a foot - feet

en tand - tänder
 a tooth - teeth
en rot - rötter
 a root - roots
en strand - stränder
 a beach - beaches
en bok - böcker
 a book - books
en rand - ränder
 a stripe - stripes
en man - män
 a man - men
ett land - länder
 a country - countries
mannen - männen
 the man - the men

21. Possessive Adjectives and Pronouns

	<i>with en words</i>	<i>with ett words</i>	<i>with plural words</i>
<i>my / mine</i>	min	mitt	mina
<i>your / yours</i>	din	ditt	dina
<i>his / her / its / their</i>	sin	sitt	sina
<i>his / his</i>	hans	hans	hans
<i>her / hers</i>	hennes	hennes	hennes
<i>its / its</i>	dess	dess	dess
<i>our / ours</i>	vår	vårt	våra
<i>your / yours</i>	er	ert	era

their / theirs **deras** **deras** **deras**

The same forms are used for possessive adjectives that are used directly before nouns and for possessive pronouns that replace a noun. For example, *this is my car* and *this is mine* would be translated as **det här är min bil** and **det här är min**.

Sin, sitt and **sina** can only be used when the third person possessive adjective refers to the subject of the same clause. These words can be translated as *his, her, its or their*. Generally, if you cannot insert "own" after the possessive adjective in English, you cannot use *sin/sitt/sina*.

Per besöker **sin** mamma. = Per visits his (own) mother. (Sin refers back to Per.)

Eva ringer hans mamma. = Eva calls his mother. (Hans refers to Per, not Eva.)

22. To Do/Make and To Become

	göra - to do/make	bli - to become
<i>present</i>	gör	blir
<i>past</i>	gjorde	blev
<i>future</i>	ska göra	ska bli

23. Work and School

actor	skådespelare	judge	domare
actress	skådespelerska	lawyer	advokat
author	författare	mechanic	mekaniker, montör
baker	bagare	musician	musiker
baker's shop	bageri	nurse	sjuusköterska
bookseller	bokhandlare	official	ämbetsman
bookshop	bokaffär	optician (eye doctor)	optiker
businessman	affärsman	painter	målare
butcher	slaktare	photographer	fotograf
pharmacist	farmaceut	policeman	polis (n)
pharmacy	apotek (n)	postman	brevbärare
cook	kock, kokerska	priest	präst
customer	kund	publisher	förläggare
dentist	tandläkare	scientist	vetenskapsman
doctor	läkare, doktor	shoemaker	skomakare
employee	anställd,	shop, store	butik

	arbetstagare		
engineer	ingenjör	singer	sångare, sångerska
fisherman	fiskare	student	student
gardener	trädgårdsmästare	surgeon	kirurg
hairdresser	hårfrisör	tailor	skräddare
jeweler	juvelerare	teacher	lärare
journalist	journalist	workman	arbetare

24. Prepositions

vid	by, at, next to	av	of, by, with
i	in	bakom	behind
på	on, in, at	bland	among
hos	at the house of	bredvid	beside
till	to	efter	after, for
från	from	enligt	according to
genom	through, by	framför	in front of
längs	along	för	for, by, with
över	across, over	omkring	around
mot	towards, to	med	with, by
mellan	between	under	under, below
om	around, about, in	utan	without
sedan	since	utom	except for
trots	in spite of	åt	towards, for

Vid is used to express a position next to something, but with no contact. **I** is used to express a position in something that is seen to have volume (room, containers, etc.); and it is also used with countries, cities, villages, etc. **På** is used to express a position on something that is seen as a line or surface with contact; and it is also used with islands, addresses, and particular places, such as bank, post office, cinema, hospital, library, etc. Three exceptions to using **på** with particular places include school, work, and the shop: **i skolan, i affären, i kyrkan.**

25. Countries and Nationalities

	<i>Country</i>	<i>Noun</i>	<i>Adjective</i>
Africa / African	Afrika	afrikan	afrikansk
America / American	Amerika	amerikan	amerikansk
Argentina / Argentinan	Argentina	argentinare	argentinsk
Asia / Asian	Asien	asiat	asiatisk
Australia / Australian	Australien	australiensare	australiensk
Austria / Austrian	Österrike	österrikare	österrikisk
Belgium / Belgian	Belgien	belgare	belgisk
Brazil / Brazilian	Brasilien	brasilianare	brasiliansk
Canada / Canadian	Kanada	kanadensare	kanadensisk
China / Chinese	Kina	kines	kinesisk
Denmark / Dane	Danmark	dansk	dansk
Egypt / Egyptian	Egypten	egyptier	egyptisk
England / English	England	engelsman	engelsk
Europe / European	Europa	europé	europaisk
Finland / Finnish	Finland	finländare / finne	finsk
France / French	Frankrike	fransman	fransk
Germany / German	Tyskland	tysk	tysk
Great Britain / British	Storbritannien	britt	brittisk
Greece / Greek	Grekland	grek	grekisk
Netherlands / Dutch	Holland	holländare	holländsk
Hungary / Hungarian	Ungern	ungrare	ungersk
Ireland / Irish	Irland	irländare	irländsk
Italy / Italian	Italien	italienare	italiensk
Japan / Japanese	Japan	japan	japansk
Norway / Norwegian	Norge	norrman	norsk
Poland / Polish	Polen	polack	polsk
Portugal / Portuguese	Portugal	portugis	portugisisk
Russia / Russian	Ryssland	ryss	rysk

Scotland / Scottish	Skottland	skotte	skotsk
Spain / Spanish	Spanien	spanjor	spansk
Sweden / Swedish	Sverige	svensk	svensk
Switzerland / Swiss	Schweiz	schweizare	schweizisk
Turkey / Turkish	Turkiet	turk	turkisk
United States	U.S.A.	amerikan	

For languages, you generally add -a to the adjective: svenska is Swedish and engelska is English, etc.

26. Negative Sentences

To make a sentence negative in Swedish, simply add **inte** after the verb. If there is an auxiliary verb and a main verb, **inte** goes between the two.

In addition, if you answer "yes" to a negative question, you must use **jo** instead of **ja**.

27. Short Answers

A yes/no question can be answered with a short phrase, just as in English. The verb **göra** (to do/make) is used with the pronoun **det** and the subject of the question. Some verbs are not replaced by **göra** and are repeated in the short answer, such as **vara** and **ha**. This is very similar to English, except for the word order.

Positive Short Answer: **Ja + det + Verb + Subject**

Negative Short Answer: **Nej + det + Verb + Subject + inte**

Arbetar hon här? Does she work here?

Ja, det gör hon. Yes, she does.

Nej, det gör hon inte. No, she doesn't.

Är de glada? Are they happy?

Ja, det är de. Yes, they are.

Nej, det är de inte. No, they are not.

28. To Come and To Go

	komma - to come	gå - to go
<i>present</i>	kommer	går
<i>past</i>	kom	gick
<i>future</i>	ska komma	ska gå

29. Common Auxiliary Verbs

	kunna - to be able to, can	vilja - to want to	få - to be allowed to	--- have to, must
<i>present</i>	kan	vill	får	måste
<i>past</i>	kunde	ville	fick	---

Just as in English, there is no past form of must / måste. You can either use **var tvungen** or **behövde** instead, as in **jag var tvungen att ... = I had to...**

	skola - supposed to, will, should	böra- should, ought to	bruka - usually, used to	behöva - need to
<i>present</i>	ska	bör	brukar	behöver
<i>past</i>	skulle	borde	brukade	behövde

Vi kan tala engelska. We can speak English.

Han kunde inte spela. He could not play.

Sven vill sova. Sven wants to sleep.

Hon vill ha kaffe. She wants coffee. (When **vilja** is followed by a noun, **ha** is added before the noun.)

Du får röka. You may smoke.

De måste gå hem nu. They must go home now.

Du får inte röka. You must not smoke. (*Must not* is translated with **får inte** rather than *måste inte*, which means don't have to.)

Jag brukar dricka kaffe efter lunch. I usually drink coffee after lunch. (**Brukar** in the present tense means **usually** + main verb.)

30. Conjugating Regular Verbs (Present and Past Tenses)

Infinitives in Swedish end in -a. When conjugating verbs, the same form is used for all subject pronouns, whether singular or plural. To form the present tense of verbs, either **add -r** to the infinitive or **remove the -a and add -er**.

tala - to speak (-ar verb) & stänga - to close (-er verb)

	<i>Present Tense</i>	<i>Past Tense</i>	<i>Present Tense</i>	<i>Past Tense</i>			
jag	I speak	jag	I spoke	jag	I close	jag	I closed
talar		talade		stänger		stängde	
du	you	du	you	du	you	du	you
talar	speak	talade	spoke	stänger	close	stängde	closed

han	he	han	he spoke	han	he	han	he closed
talar	speaks	talade		stänger	closes	stängde	
hon	she	hon	she	hon	she	hon	she
talar	speaks	talade	spoke	stänger	closes	stängde	closed
vi talar	we speak	vi talade	we spoke	vi stänger	we close	vi stängde	we closed
ni talar	you speak	ni talade	you spoke	ni stänger	you close	ni stängde	you closed
de talar	they speak	de talade	they spoke	de stänger	they close	de stängde	they closed

Please note the three present tenses in English (simple, progressive and emphatic) are all translated by one verb form in Swedish.

Jag talar can mean *I speak*, *I am speaking* or *I do speak*.

Four Past Tense Conjugations

To form the past tense, most verbs add -de to the present tense form of -ar verbs and to the stem of -er verbs (infinitive minus -a). But if the stem ends in a voiceless consonant (k, p, t, or s), then add -te instead. Another group of verbs, short verbs ending in a vowel, add -dde to form the past tense. (See [34. Irregular Verbs](#) below for a longer list as many of these verbs have irregular forms in other tenses.)

	<i>Infinitive</i>		<i>Present</i>	<i>Past</i>
	arbeta	to work	arbetar	arbetade
Infinitive of -ar verbs; add -de	fråga	to ask	frågar	frågade
	öppna	to open	öppnar	öppnade
	tala	to speak	talar	talade
	ringa	to ring	ringer	ringde
Stem of -er verbs; add -de	stänga	to close	stänger	stängde
	följa	to follow	följer	följde
	bygga	to build	bygger	byggde
	tänka	to think	tänker	tänkte
Stem ends in k, p, t, or s; add -te	röka	to smoke	röker	rökte
	läsa	to read	läser	läste
	köpa	to buy	köper	köpte
Infinitive ends in long vowel; add -dde	tro	to believe	tror	trodde
	bo	to live, dwell	bor	bodde

31. Reflexive Verbs

Some verbs in Swedish are reflexive verbs, in that the action by the subject is performed by itself. This is comparable to the -self or -selves pronouns used in English with some verbs, such as *he behaves himself*. Most of the time, verbs that are reflexive in Swedish are not reflexive in English. To conjugate these verbs, simply add these pronouns after the verb:

mig (mej)	myself	oss	ourselves
dig (dej)	yourself	er	yourselves
sig (sej)	himself/herself/itself	sig (sej)	theirselves

The forms in parentheses are used in colloquial (spoken and written) Swedish. In fact, **mig, dig and sig** are pronounced as if they were written **mej, dej and sej**.

32. Commands

Verbs that end in -ar in the present tense simply remove the -r to form the command (imperative). Verbs that end in -er in the present tense remove the -er to form the command. You cannot form the imperative if you only know the infinitive and not if the verb takes -ar or -er in the present tense. But if you do know that an infinitive is an -ar verb, you leave the -a in the imperative, and if the infinitive is an -er verb, you remove the -a.

<i>Present Tense</i>	<i>Imperative</i>	<i>Translation</i>
öppnar	öppna!	open!
väntar	vänta!	wait!
skriver	skriv!	write!
läser	läs!	read!

33. Present and Past Perfect

The present and past perfect tenses consist of two parts: **har / hade** and the **supine form** of the main verb. This is a compound tense that corresponds to **has/have / had** and a **past participle** in English. The main difference between Swedish and English in this tense, however, is that Swedish uses the supine form of the verb instead of the past participle.

To form the supine, -ar verbs add -t to the infinitive; while -er verbs replace -a with -t in the infinitive. Infinitives ending in long vowels add -tt to form the supine.

<i>Infinitive</i>		<i>Present</i>	<i>Past</i>	<i>Supine</i>
arbeta	to work	arbetar	arbetade	arbetat
fråga	to ask	frågar	frågade	frågat
öppna	to open	öppnar	öppnade	öppnat
tala	to speak	talar	talade	talat
ringa	to ring	ringer	ringde	ringt
stänga	to close	stänger	stängde	stängt

följa	to follow	följer	följde	följt
bygga	to build	bygger	byggde	byggt
tänka	to think	tänker	tänkte	tänkt
röka	to smoke	röker	rökte	rökt
läsa	to read	läser	läste	läst
köpa	to buy	köper	köpte	köpt
tro	to believe	tror	trodde	trott
bo	to live, dwell	bor	bodde	bott

Jag har läst boken. I have read the book.

Hon hade öppnat dörren. She had opened the door.

34. Irregular Verbs

Several verbs in Swedish are considered irregular because they do not follow the rules for the different conjugations. These forms need to be memorized since these verbs are very common.

Infinitive

Imperative

Present

Past

Supine

Translation

vara

var

är

var

varit

be

ha

ha

har

hade

haft

have

komma

kom

kommer

kom

kommit

come

göra

gör

gör

gjorde

gjort

do, make

ta

ta, tag

tar

tog

tagit

take

säga

säg

säger

sa, sade

sagt

say

veta

vet

vet

visste

vetat

know

låta

låt

låter

lät

låtit

let

hålla

håll

håller

höll

hållit

hold

heta

het

heter

hette

hetat

be called

åka

åk

åker

åkte

åkt

go

resa

res

reser

reste

rest

travel

bära

bär

bär

bar

burit

carry

dra

dra, drag

drar

drog

dragit

pull, drag

ligga

ligg

ligger

låg

legat

lie (down)

lägga

lägg

lägger

la, lade

lagt

put

sätta

sätt

sätter

satte

satt

put

slå

slå

slår

slog

slagit

hit

falla

fall

faller

föll

fallit

fall

äta

ät

äter

åt

ätit

eat

sova

sov

sover

sov

sovit

sleep

stjåla

stjål

stjäler

stal

stulit

steal

gråta

gråt

gråter

grät

gråtit

cry

sälja

sälj

säljer

sålde

sålt

sell

välja

välj

väljer

valde

valt

choose

vänja

vänj

vänjer

vande

vant

accustom

svälja

svälj

sväljer

svalde

svalt

swallow

skilja

skilj

skiljer

skilde

skilt

separate

Some -er verbs (and never -ar verbs) have irregular simple past and supine forms. Sometimes these involve a vowel change and lack of ending.

<i>Infinitive</i>	<i>Past</i>	<i>Supine</i>	<i>Translations</i>
binda	band	bundit	<i>to bind / bound / bound</i>
brinna	brann	brunnit	<i>to burn / burned / burned</i>
dricka	drack	druckit	<i>to drink / drank / drunk</i>
finna	fann	funnit	<i>to find / found / found</i>
försvinna	försvann	försvunnit	<i>to disappear / disappeared / disappeared</i>
hinna	hann	hunnit	<i>to manage / managed / managed</i>
rinna	rann	runnit	<i>to run, flow / ran, flowed / run, flowed</i>
sitta	satt	suttit	<i>to sit / sat / sat</i>

slippa	slapp	sluppit	<i>to get out of / got out of / gotten out of</i>
spricka	sprack	spruckit	<i>to split / split / split</i>
springa	sprang	sprungit	<i>to run / ran / run</i>
sticka	stack	stuckit	<i>to stick / stuck / stuck</i>
vinna	vann	vunnit	<i>to win / won / won</i>
bita	bet	bitit	<i>to bite / bit / bitten</i>
gripa	grep	gripit	<i>to grip / gripped / gripped</i>
lida	led	lidit	<i>to suffer / suffered / suffered</i>
rida	red	ridit	<i>to ride / rode / ridden</i>
skina	sken	skinit	<i>to shine / shone / shone</i>
skriva	skrev	skrivit	<i>to write / wrote / written</i>
slita	slet	slitit	<i>to wear out / wore out / worn out</i>
stiga	steg	stigit	<i>to rise / rose / risen</i>
tiga	teg	tigit	<i>to be silent / was silent / been silent</i>
vrid	vred	vridit	<i>to turn / turned / turned</i>
bjuda	bjöd	bjudit	<i>to invite / invited / invited</i>
ljuga	ljög	ljugit	<i>to lie / lied / lied (to tell a lie)</i>
sjunga	sjöng	sjungit	<i>to sing / sang / sung</i>
skjuta	sköt	skjutit	<i>to shoot / shot / shot</i>
bryta	bröt	brutit	<i>to break / broke / broken</i>
flyga	flög	flugit	<i>to fly / flew / flown</i>
flyta	flöt	flutit	<i>to float / floated / floated</i>
frysa	frös	frusit	<i>to freeze / froze / frozen</i>
knyta	knöt	knutit	<i>to tie up / tied up / tied up</i>
krypa	kröp	krupit	<i>to crawl / crawled / crawled</i>

A few infinitives in Swedish do not end in -a. These are short verbs and they end in a long, stressed vowel. The infinitive is the same as the imperative, and the present tense is formed by adding -r. The past tense is formed by adding -dde to the infinitive, and the supine is formed by adding -tt to the infinitive. However, a few of the short verbs have an irregular form in the past.

<i>Infinitive / Imperative</i>	<i>Present Tense</i>	<i>Past Tense</i>	<i>Supine</i>	<i>Translation</i>
Short verbs with a regular past:				
tro	tror	trodde	trott	<i>believe, think</i>
ske	sker	skedde	skett	<i>happen</i>
nå	når	nådde	nått	<i>reach</i>
bo	bor	bodde	bott	<i>live (dwell)</i>

må	mår	mådde	mått	<i>feel (of health)</i>
klä	klär	klädde	klätt	<i>dress</i>
Short verbs with an irregular past:				
få	får	fick	fått	<i>get, receive</i>
gå	går	gick	gått	<i>go, walk</i>
ge	ger	gav	gett	<i>give</i>
se	ser	såg	sett	<i>see</i>
dö	dör	dog	dött	<i>die</i>
stå	står	stod	stått	<i>stand</i>
be	ber	bad	bett	<i>ask, pray</i>

35. Food and Meals

bacon	bacon / fläsk (n)	salad	sallad
beef	nötkött (n)	salt	salt (n)
beer	öl (n)	sandwich	smörgås
beverage	dryck	sauce	sås
biscuit	kaka	sausage	korv
bread	bröd	soup	soppa
breakfast	frukost	stew	gryta
butter	smör (n)	sugar	socker (n)
cake	kaka / tårta	supper	middag
cheese	ost	tea	te (n)
chicken	kyckling	veal	kalvkött (n)
chop	hacka	vegetables	grönsaker
coffee	kaffe	vinegar	ättika / vinäger
cream	grädde	wine	vin (n)
dessert	dessert	basin	skål
dinner	middag	bottle	flaska
egg	ägg (n)	can opener	konservöppnare
fried egg	stekta ägg	coffee pot	kaffekanna
soft-boiled egg	kokta ägg	colander	durkslag
fat	fett (n)	corkscrew	korvskruv
flour	mjöl (n)	cup	kopp
ham	skinka	dish	fat (n)

honey	honung	fork	gaffel
jam	sylt (n)	frying pan	stekpanna
lunch	lunch	glass	glas (n)
meal	måltid	jug	kruka
meat	kött (n)	kettle	kittel
milk	mjolk	knife	kniv
mustard	senap	lid	lock (n)
mutton	fårkött (n)	napkin	servett
oil	olja	plate	tallrik
omelet	omelett	saucer	tefat (n)
pepper	peppar	saucepan	kastrull
pork	fläsk (n)	spoon	sked
toast	rosta	tablecloth	duk
roll	bulle	teapot	tekanna

36. Fruits and Vegetables

almond	mandel	strawberry	jordgubbe
apple	äpple (n)	tree	träd (n)
apple tree	äppelträd (n)	tree trunk	stam
apricot	aprikos	vine	vinstock
ash	ask	walnut	valnöt
bark	bark	willow	pil
beech	bok	artichoke	kronärtskocka
berry	bär (n)	asparagus	sparris
birch	björk	barley	korn (n)
blackberry	björnbär (n)	bean (broad)	böna
branch	gren	bean (kidney)	kidneyböna
cherry	körsbär (n)	brussel sprouts	brysselkål
cherry tree	körsbärsträd	cabbage	kål
chestnut	kastanj	carrot	morot
chestnut tree	kastanjeträd	cauliflower	blomkål
currant	vinbär (n)	celery	selleri
cypress	cypress	corn	majs
date	dadel	cucumber	gurka

elm	alm	eggplant	aubergine
fig	fikon (n)	garlic	vitlök
fir	gran	herb	ört
fruit	frukt	horse-radish	pepparrot
grapes	vindruvor	lentil	lins
hazelnut	hasselnöt	lettuce	sallad
kernel	kärna	maize	majs
laurel	lagerträd	mint	mynta
leaf	blad (n)	mushroom	svamp
lemon	citron	oats	havre
lime tree	lind	onion	lök
melon	melon	parsley	persilja
oak	ek	pea	ärta
olive	oliv	potato	potatis
olive tree	olivträd	pumpkin	pumpa
orange	apelsin	radish	rädisa
orange tree	apelsinträd	rice	ris (n)
peach	persika	rye	råg
pear	päron (pl)	sage	salvia
pear tree	päronträd	seed	frö
pine	tall	spinach	spenat
pineapple	ananas	stalk	stjälk
plum	plommon (n)	tomato	tomat
poplar	poppel	turnip	rova
raspberry	hallon (n)	wheat	vete (n)
root	rot		

37. Conjunctions

Coordinating Conjunctions

och	and
eller	or
men	but
för	because, for
så	so

som as
antingen...eller either...or
varken...eller neither...nor

Subordinating Conjunctions

att that
då when
eftersom because, as
för att in order to, so
that
därför att because
**innan /
förrän** before
medan while
när when
om if, whether
(interrogation)
fast even if, although
sedan since, as
nu då now that

38. Word Order

In general, the word order of Swedish is the same as English: Subject + Verb + Object. However, the word order is slightly different from English when something other than the subject of the verb begins the sentence. In declarative sentences, the main verb is always in the *second position* (but not necessarily the second word!). For example, if a sentence begins with an adverb or an object, the verb will be the second element in the sentence, and the subject will come **after** the verb. Then any other forms of verbs (such as participles or infinitives) will come after the subject.

<i>Adverb or Object</i>	<i>Main Verb</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>(Participle / Infinitive)</i>	<i>Translation</i>
I morgon	åker	jag	till Sverige.	I'm going to Sweden tomorrow.
I affären	köper	jag	ett bröd.	I buy bread in the store.

In sentences that begin with a subordinate clause, the second (independent) clause will have inversion of the verb and subject. The subordinate clause is the first element in the sentence, so the verb must be second, and the subject is third.

<i>Subordinate Clause</i>	<i>Main Verb</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Rest of Sentence</i>	<i>Translation</i>
När jag var ung, bodde	jag	i Sverige.		When I was young, I lived in Sweden.
Nu då hon har kommit	kan vi	börja.		Now that she's arrived we can begin.

Furthermore, adverbs that modify the entire sentence come *before* the verb in subordinate clauses, whereas they normally occur after the verb in regular sentences. Besides **inte** (not), these adverbs include: **aldrig** (never), **alltid** (always), **alltså** (so, then), **möjligtvis** (maybe), **gärna** (gladly, with pleasure), **bara** (only) and **säkert** (surely).

Han säger att han inte kan åka bil till Stockholm. He said that he cannot come to Stockholm by car.

39. Asking Questions

Yes/No questions: Invert the subject and verb so that the verb begins the question.

Arbetar han? Does he work?

Regnar det? Is it raining?

Question Words: The question word begins the question, and the verb comes next, followed by the subject.

Var bor Sten? Where does Sten live?

Vad gör Elsa? What does Elsa do?

40. Holiday Phrases

God Jul!	Merry Christmas!
Gott Nytt År!	Happy New Year!
Glad Påsk!	Happy Easter!
Grattis på födelsedagen!	Happy Birthday!

The Swedish National Anthem:

Du gamla, du fria, du fjällhöga Nord,
 Du tysta, du glädjerika sköna!
 Jag hälsar dig, vänaste land uppå jord,

Din sol, din himmel, dina ängder gröna.
Din sol, din himmel, dina ängder gröna.

Du tronar på minnen från fornstora da'r,
då ärat ditt namn flög över jorden.

Jag vet att du är och du blir, vad du var.

Ja, jag vill leva, jag vill dö i Norden.

Ja, jag vill leva, jag vill dö i Norden.

*You ancient, free and mountainous North,
Of quiet, joyful beauty,*

I greet you, loveliest land on earth,

Your sun, your sky, your green meadows.

Your sun, your sky, your green meadows.

You are throned on memories of olden days

When the honour of your name spread over the earth.

I know that you are and will remain what you were.

Oh, may I live, may die in the Nordic North!

Oh, may I live, may die in the Nordic North!

41. Places

airport	flygplats	embassy	ambassad	port	hamn
bakery	bageri	factory	fabrik	prison	fängelse (n)
bank	bank	farm	bondgård	restaurant	restaurang
bar	bar	fountain	fontän/brunn	road/street	gata
barn	lada	garage	garage	school	skola
barracks	kasern	hospital	sjukhus (n)	sidewalk	trottoar
bench	bänk	hotel	hotell	square	torg (n)
bookstore	bokhandel	house	hus (n)	stable	stall
bridge	bro	hut	hydda	stadium	stadion
building	byggnad	inn	värdshus (n)	store	affär
castle	slott (n)	library	bibliotek (n)	suburb	förstad
cathedral	katedral	market	marknad	theater	teater
cemetery	kyrkogård	monument	minnesvård	tower	torn (n)
church	kyrka	museum	museum	town	stad
cinema	biograf	palace	palats	town hall	rådhus (n)
consulate	konsulat (n)	path	stig	train station	järnvägsstation
corner	hörn	pharmacy	apotek	university	universitet (n)
courtyard	gård	police station	polisstation	village	by

42. Transportation

airplane	flygplan
bicycle	cykel
boat	båt
bus	buss
car	bil
moped	moped
motorcycle	motorcykel
ship	skepp
streetcar	spårvagn
train	tåg
truck	lastbil

43. Adjectives

Adjectives must agree in gender and number with the nouns they describe. In Swedish, adjectives are placed directly before the noun, as in English. There are two types of adjectives: strong and weak. Strong adjectives are used after the indefinite article and the words **någon** (a, some, any), **ingen** (no), **en annan** (another), **vilken** (what a), and **all** (all); as well as after the verbs to be and to become (**vara** and **bli**). Weak adjectives are used with the definite article, demonstratives, possessive adjectives or a possessive noun.

Strong (Indefinite): The basic rule for strong adjectives is to add -t for neuter nouns and -a for plural nouns. There is no ending for adjectives that modify common nouns.

	<i>common</i>	<i>neuter</i>	<i>plural</i>
	en fin bil	ett fint hus	fina bilar
basic rule	<i>a beautiful car</i>	<i>a beautiful house</i>	<i>beautiful cars</i>
ending in vowel + d	god	gott	goda
ending in consonant + d	ond	ont	onda
ending long vowel	blå	blått	blåa
ending in -er or -el	vacker	vackert	vackra
ending in -en	egen	eget	egna
gammal is irregular	gammal	gammalt	gamla

liten is irregular liten **litet** **små**

Weak (Definite): The basic rule for weak adjectives is to add -a for all nouns. Note that the noun has the definite article attached to the end and the words **den, det** or **de** preceding the adjective. The adjective liten is completely irregular in the singular and plural. With adjectives follow possessives or demonstratives, the definite article is not attached to the end of the noun.

	<i>common</i>	<i>neuter</i>	<i>plural</i>
basic rule	den fina bilen <i>the beautiful car</i>	det fina huset <i>the beautiful house</i>	de fina bilarna <i>the beautiful cars</i>
	liten is irregular	den lilla bilen <i>the small car</i>	det lilla huset <i>the small house</i>

Some common adjectives cannot be declined and they remain the same in all forms: **bra** (good), **extra** (extra), **gratis** (free).

44. Comparative & Superlative

Forming the comparative and superlative of adjectives in Swedish is very similar to English. Most adjectives add -are to the adjective for the comparative and -ast(e) for the superlative. Some adjectives add nothing to the adjective, but use **mer** or **mest** (more or most) before the adjective.

	<i>comparative</i>	<i>superlative</i>
strong adjectives	-are	-ast
weak adjectives	-are	-aste
many syllables	mer	mest

Irregular Comparative and Superlative Forms

<i>good - better - best</i>	god	bättre	bäst
<i>good - better - best (food)</i>	god	godare	godast
<i>bad - worse - worst</i>	dålig	värre	värst
<i>bad - less good - least good</i>	dålig	sämre	sämst
<i>small - smaller - smallest</i>	liten	mindre	minst
<i>many - more - most</i>	många	fler	flest

much - more - most **mycket** **mer** **mest**
old - older - oldest **gammal** **äldre** **äldst**

Note: Godare and godast usually only refer to food. Fler / flest are used with count nouns, while mer / mest are used with non-count nouns.

Comparing two or more adjectives: To express equality (as... as), use **så...som**. To express superiority (-er or more... than), use **-are** or **mer** and **än** (than.) To express the superlative (-est or the most), use **-ast** or **mest**.

45. House & Furniture

alarm clock	väckarklocka	desk	bord	refrigerator	kylskåp
armchair	länstol	door	dörr	roof	tak (n)
attic	vindsvåning	doorbell	ringklocka	room	rum (n)
balcony	balkong	drawer	låda	rug	matta
basement	källare	fence	staket	sheet	lakan (n)
basket	korg	fireplace	eldstad	shelf	hylla
bathroom	badrum	floor	golv (n)	shower	duch
bathtub	bad	floor / storey	våning	sink	diskbänk
bed	säng	furniture	möbler (pl.)	sofa	soffa
bedroom	sovrum (n)	garden	trädgård	stairs	trappa
blanket	filt	ground floor	nedersta våning	stove	spis
blinds	rullgardin	house	hus (n)	table	bord (n)
bookcase	bokhylla	iron (flat)	strykjärn (n)	tap (faucet)	kran
box	kista	key	nyckel	telephone	telefon
broom	kvast	kitchen	kök (n)	television	television
carpet	matta	lamp	lampa	toaster	brödrost
ceiling	tak (n)	lawn	gräsmatta	toilet (WC)	toalett
chair	stol	light bulb	glödlampa	towel	handduk
chimney	skorsten	lock	lås (n)	vacuum cleaner	dammsugare
clock	klocka	mattress	madrass	vase	vas
closet	garderob	mirror	spegel	wall	mur
computer	dator	oven	ugn	wall (room)	vägg
corner	hörn (n)	pantry	skafferi (n)	window	fönster (n)
cupboard	skåp (n)	picture	tavla	yard	gård
curtain	gardin	pillow	huvudkudde		

cushion **kudde** pipe (water) **rör (n)**

46. Clothing

apron	förkläde	glasses	glasögon	shorts	shorts
bathrobe	badkappa	glove	handske	silk	silke (n)
belt	skärp	handbag	handväska	skirt	kjol
blouse	blus	handkerchief	näsduk	sleeve	ärm
boot	känga	hat	hatt	slippers	toffel
bra	behå	jacket	jacka	soap	tvål
bracelet	armband	necklace	halsband	sock	sockor
brush	hårborste	needle	nål	stocking	trumpa
buckle	spänne	nightgown	nattlinne	suit	kostym
button	knapp	overcoat	överrock	sunglasses	solglasögon
cap	mössa	pants	byxor	suspenders	hängslen
clothes	kläder	pin	knappnål	sweater	tröja
coat	jacka	pocket	ficka	swimsuit	badkläder
collar	krage	purse	börs	thread	tråd
comb	kam	raincoat	regnrock	tie	slips
contact lens	kontaktlins	ring	ring	T-shirt	T-shirt
cotton	bomull	scarf	scarf / halsduk	umbrella	paraply
dress	klänning	shirt	skjorta	waistcoat	väst
earrings	örhängen	shoe	skor	watch	klocka
fashion	mod	shoelace	skoband (n)	wool	ull

47. Future Tense

One way to form the future tense in Swedish is by using the auxiliary verb **ska** before an infinitive. This implies intention and the involvement of someone's will or wish. As an alternative, you can use **tänker** before an infinitive, as long as it is the subject's wish and not someone else's.

Du ska tala svenska. You are going to speak Swedish.

Jag ska resa till Amerika i höst. I'm going to America in the fall.

Vi tänker flyga hem. We're going to fly home.

Another way is to use **kommer att** before an infinitive. This does not imply intention or will, as it's more of a prediction or assumption about the future.

Du kommer att tycka om min vän. You'll like my friend.

Alla kommer att vara här klockan 8. Everybody will be here at 8 o'clock.

48. Sports

badminton	badminton	rugby	rugby
baseball	baseball	sailing	segling
basketball	basket	skiing	skidsport
bowling	bowling	soccer	 fotboll
boxing	boxning	surfing	surfing
cycling	cykelsport	swimming	simning
golf	golf	table tennis	bordtennis
hockey	hockey	tennis	tennis
ice-skating	konståkning	volleyball	volleyboll
jogging	jogging	wrestling	brottning

49. Nature

air	luft	grass	gräs (n)	root	rot
bank	strand	gulf	vik	rose	ros
bay	vik	hail	hagel (n)	salt water	saltvatten (n)
beach	strand	hay	hö (n)	sand	sand
branch	gren	high tide	flod	sea	hav (n)
bud	knopp	hill	kulle	shadow	skugga
bush	buske	ice	is	sky	himmel
cape	kap	island	ö	snow	snö
cave	grotta	isthmus	landtunga; näs	soil	mark
climate	klimat	jungle	djungel	south	söder
cloud	moln (n)	lake	sjö	spring (water)	källa
coast	kust	leaf	blad	star	stjärna
comet	komet	light	ljus (n)	stem	stam
constellation	konstellation	lightning	blixt	storm	storm
country(side)	land (n)	lily	lilja	strait	sund
current	ström	low tide	ebb	stream	bäck
daffodil	narcisser	meadow	äng	sun	sol
daisy	tusensköna	moon	måne	sunflower	solros

darkness	mörker (n)	mountain	berg (n)	thaw	töväder (n)
desert	öken	mountain range	bergskedja	thunder	åska
dew	dagg	mud	mudder (n)	tornado	tromb
dust	dam (n)	nature	natur	tree	träd
earth	jord	north	norr	tulip	tulpan
east	öster	peninsula	halvö	valley	dal
farm	lantbruk / farm	plain	slät	view	utsikt
field	fält	planet	planet	water	vatten (n)
flower	blomma	plant	växt	waterfall	vattenfall (n)
foam	skum (n)	pond	dam (n)	wave	bölja
fog	dimma	rain	regn (n)	weather	väder (n)
forest	skog	rainbow	regnbåge	west	väster
fresh water	sötvatten (n)	river	flod	wind	vind
frost	frost	rock	klippa	world	värld

50. Parts of the Body

ankle	fotled	finger	finger (n)	nail	nagel
arm	arm	fist	knytnäve	neck	hals
artery	pulsåder	flesh	kött (n)	nerve	nerv
back	rygg	foot	fot	nose	smärta
beard	skägg (n)	forehead	panna	pulse	hjärtslag
belly	buk	gum	tandkött (n)	rib	revben (n)
bladder	blåsa	hair	hår (n)	shin	skenben
blood	blod (n)	hand	hand	shoulder	skuldra
body	kropp	head	huvud (n)	skeleton	skelett
bone	ben (n)	health	hälsa	skin	skinn (n)
brain	hjärna	heart	hjärta (n)	skull	skalle
breast	bröst	heel	häl	sole	fotsula
breath	ande	hip	höft	spine	ryggrad
calf	vad	intestine	ineltvor (pl.)	stomach	mage
cheek	kind	jaw	käft	temple	tinning
chest	bröst (n)	kidney	njure	thigh	lår (n)
chin	haka	knee	knä (n)	throat	strupe
complexion	hy	leg	ben (n)	thumb	tumme

ear	öra (n)	lip	läpp	toe	tå
elbow	armbåge	liver	lever	tongue	tunga
eye	öga (n)	lung	lunga	tooth	tand
eyebrow	ögonbryn (n)	moustache	mustasch	vein	åder
eyelid	ögonlock (n)	mouth	mun	waist	midja
face	ansikte (n)	muscle	muskel	wrist	handled

51. Relative Pronouns

The relative pronoun **som** can be translated at *that, which, whom, or who* and it can act as a subject or as a complement. **Där** (where, in which) and **när** (when) can also be used as relative pronouns for location and time.

Stan, som ligger där borta, är Skövde. The city that is over there is Skövde.

Flickan, som fyller 17 år, är min syster. The girl who is going to be 17 is my sister.

Restaurangen, som du tycker om, ligger i Gamla Stan. The restaurant which you like is in Gamla Stan.

52. Animals & Insects

animal	djur (n)	giraffe	giraff	pig	svin (n)
ant	myra	goat	get	pigeon	duva
badger	grävling	goose	gås	pike	gädda
bat	flädermus	gorilla	gorilla	rabbit	kanin
beak	näbb	grasshopper	gräshoppa	raccoon	tvättbjörn
bear	björn	hamster	hamster	rat	råtta
bee	bi (n)	hare	hare	rooster	tupp
beetle	skalbagge	hedgehog	igelkott	salmon	lax
bird	fågel	hen	höna	scale	fjäll (n)
blackbird	koltrast	heron	häger	scorpion	skorpion
bull	tjur	herring	sill	sea gull	mås
butterfly	fjäril	hoof	hov	seahorse	sjöhäst
calf	kalv	horn	horn (n)	seal	säl
carp	karp	horse	häst	shark	haj
cat	katt	hummingbird	kolibrier	sheep	får
caterpillar	larv	iguana	Ieguan	shrimp	räka
chicken	kyckling	insect	insekt	slug	snigel

chimpanzee	schimpans	jellyfish	manet	snail	snigel
claw	klo	kitten	kattunge	snake	orm
cockroach	kackerlacka	ladybug	nyckelpiga	sole	sjötunga
cod	torsk	lamb	lamm (n)	sparrow	sparv
cow	ko	lark	lärka	spider	spindel
crab	krabba	lion	lejon (n)	squirrel	ekorre
crayfish	kräfta	lizard	ödla	starfish	sjöstjärna
crocodile	krokodil	lobster (spiny)	hummer	stork	stork
crow	kråka	louse	lus	swallow	svala
deer	hjort	mackerel	makrill	swan	svan
dog	hund	mole	mullvad	tadpole	grodyngel
donkey	åsna	monkey	apa	tail	svans
dragonfly	trollslända	mosquito	mygga	tiger	tiger
duck	anka	moth	nattfjäril	toad	padda
eagle	örn	mouse	mus	trout	forell
eel	ål	mule	mula	tuna	tonfisk
elephant	elefant	nightingale	näktergal	turkey	kalkon
feather	fjäder	octopus	bläckfisk	turtle	sköldpaddor
fin	fena	ostrich	struts	wasp	geting
fish	fisk	owl	uggla	weasel	vessla
flea	loppa	ox	oxe	whale	valfisk
fly	fluga	oyster	ostron (n)	wing	vinge
fox	räv	parrot	papegoja	wolf	varg
frog	groda	partridge	rapphöna	worm	mask
fur	päls	paw	tass	zebra	sebra
gill	gäl	penguin	pingvin		

53. Adverbs

never	aldrig	possibly	möjligen
always	alltid	often	ofta
probably	antagligen	already	redan
at least	åtminstone	surely	säkert
only, merely	bara	seldom	sällan
gladly, willingly	gärna	soon	snart

not	inte	probably	troligtvis
maybe, perhaps	kanska	usually	vanligtvis
hardly	knappast	really, indeed	verkligen

Adverbs are generally placed after the first verb in independent clauses with straight word order.

David röker ofta pipa. David often smokes a pipe.

Stockholm ligger inte i Amerika. Stockholm is not in a America.

Talar Bo alltid långsamt? Does Bo always speak slowly?

In subordinate clauses, the adverb is placed before the conjugated verb.

Hon tror, att hon alltid har rätt. She thinks that she is always right.

Lars sade, att han inte tycker om att köra bil. Lars said that he doesn't like to drive.

Many adverbs in Swedish have two distinct forms: one to denote location and one to denote movement to or from a place. Location adverbs answer the question **var?** where? while movement adverbs answer the question **vart?** where to?

	Location	Movement
in	inne	in
out	ute	ut
there	framme	fram
up	uppe	upp
down	ner	ner
here	här	hit
there	där	dit
away	borta	bort
(at) home	hemma	hem

Location adverbs are used with verbs of rest (vara, stå, ligga, sitta, stanna, finnas, bo, trivas) and movement adverbs are used with verbs of motion (gå, komma, fara, resa, åka, flytta, spring, köra, flyga).

Malin är här. Malin is here.

Malin kommer hit. Malin is coming here.

Mamma stannar hemma. Mother is staying home.

Mamma går hem. Mother is going home.

54. Present & Past Participles

The present participle in Swedish acts as an adjective. Present participles cannot be used to form the progressive tenses as in English, i.e. *He is reading* is translated as **Han läser**. Nor can present

participles be used as gerunds (-ing form used as nouns in English). In this case, the infinitive is used: *Do you like reading?* **Tycker du om att läsa?**

The Swedish present participle is formed by adding **-ande** to most verbs, and **-ende** to verbs whose infinitives do not end in -a. Although the present participle acts as an adjective, it is not declined like other adjectives. It remains the same at all times.

en strålande dag
två strålande dagar
den strålande dagen
de strålande dagarna

The past participle in Swedish also acts as an adjective, either in the predicate of the sentence or as a modifying adjective before a noun. Unlike the present participle, the past participle does decline and agree with the noun in gender and number. Remember that the supine form is used in the perfect tenses in Swedish, whereas English uses the past participle. The past participle is used in the passive voice in Swedish, however.

Indefinite Forms: The en word forms vary according to the conjugation pattern of the verb. The ett word forms are similar to the regular adjective endings, and add -t or -tt. The plural forms add either -a or -e (for -ar verbs). Predicate adjectives are always declined in the definite forms.

Definite Forms: The singular and plural forms of the definite past participles are the same as the plural indefinite forms: add -a to most verbs, and -e to -ar verbs.

55. Passive Voice

Bli + past participle

The passive voice is formed similar to the English passive, but with a different verb: conjugation of **bli** + past participle (which must agree with the subject). It is possible to use *vara* (be) instead of *bli* (become) in these sentences, but this describes a state or condition. Using *bli* describes an action or a transition from one state to another. Notice that **av** is the preposition used to mean *by* when expressing the agent.

Skjortan blir tvättad. The shirt was washed.

Kläderna blir tvättade. The dresses were washed.

Huset blev sålt av Johan. The house was sold by John.

Verb + s

Another way to form the passive voice is the -s form. The ending -s can be added to the infinitive, past tense or supine forms. In the present tense, -s is added to the infinitive of the -ar and long vowel verbs and to the stem of the -er and irregular verbs. Also, if the stem already ends in -s, an -e is inserted before the -s. This verb + s form commonly follows modal verbs.

Nyheterna läses varje timme. The news is read every hour.

Bordet köptes av min moster. The table was bought by my aunt.

Räkningen hade redan betalats. The bill had already been paid.

Barn ska ses men inte höras. The child will be seen but not heard.

56. Office & School Supplies

backpack	ryggsäck	lamp	lampa
book	bok	laptop	bärbar dator
briefcase	portfölj	map	karta
cabinet	kabinett	microphone	mikrofon
cable	kabel	monitor	monitor
calculator	kalkylator	mouse	mus
calendar	kalender	mousepad	musmatta
chair	stol	newspaper	dagstidning
chalk	krita	notebook	anteckningsbok
computer	dator	novel	roman
crayon	färgkrita	page	sida
date	datum (n)	paper	papper
desk	bord	paper clip	gem
dictionary	ordbok	pen	penna
disk (floppy)	diskett	pencil	blyertspenna
document	dokument	periodical	tidskrift
drawer	låda	photocopier	kopieringsmaskin
envelope	kuvert (n)	printer	skrivare
eraser	gummi (n)	ruler	linjal
fax machine	telex	scanner	bildläsare
file	fil	scissors	sax
globe	jordglob	sender	sändare
glue	limma	software	mjukvara
ink	bläck (n)	typewriter	skrivmaskin
keyboard	tangentbord	wastebasket	soptunna

57. Materials & Tools

alloy	legering	axe	yxa
brass	mässing	board	bräde (n)
brick	mursten	chisel	mejsel
cement	cement (n)	cord	rep
chalk	krita	file	fil

clay	lera	gun	gevär (n)
coal	kol (n)	hammer	hammare
concrete	betong	hoe	hacka
copper	koppar	hook (fishing)	metkrok
cork	kork	line (fishing)	metrev
glass	glas (n)	nail	spik
gold	guld (n)	net	nät (n)
iron	järn (n)	nut	mutter
lead	bly (n)	pliers	tång
leather	läder (n)	plow	plog
lime	kalk	rod (fishing)	mestpö (n)
marble	marmor	saw	såg
mercury	kvicksilver (n)	scissors	sax
metal	metall	screw	skruv
rubber	gummi (n)	screwdriver	skruvmejsel
silver	silver (n)	spring	fjäder
steel	stål (n)	string	snöre (n)
stone	sten	tool	verktyg (n)
tar	tjära	tool box	verktygslåda
tin	tenn (n)	wire	tråd
wood	trä (n)	wrench	skruvnyckel

58. Traveling & Airport

arrival	ankomst	platform	plattform
baggage	bagage (n)	porter	bärare
border	gräns	railroad car	järnvägsvagn
coach, car	vagn	railway	järnväg
compartment	kupé	return ticket	biljett retur
connection	förbindelse	seat	plats
customs	tull	sleeping car	sovvagn
delay	fördröjning	station	station
departure	avresa	station master	stationsinspektör
engine	lokomotiv (n)	stop	halt
entrance	ingång	suitcase	kappsäck

exit	utgång	ticket	biljett
guard	konduktör	ticket office	biljettkontor (n)
information bureau	upplysningskontor (n)	time table	tidtabell
lavatory	toalett	trunk	koffert
passenger	passagerare	visa	visa
passport	pass (n)	waiting room	väntsal

59. Conversational Phrases

60. Swedish Provinces

Sweden is divided into 3 lands: Norrland, Svealand and Gotaland; which are divided into 25 smaller landskap. These are not political divisions, but they are used in everyday language (such as in weather reports).

Norrland comprises the 9: Gästrikland, Medelpad, Ångermanland, Hälsingland, Jämtland, Härjedalen, Västerbotten, Norrbotten and Lappland

Svealand consists of 6: the capital region Mälardalen in the east, Roslagen to the north-east, the former mining District Bergslagen in the center, and Dalarna and Värmland in the west.

Gotaland has 10:

- * Blekinge
- * Bohuslän
- * Dalsland
- * Gotland
- * Halland
- * Skåne
- * Småland
- * Västergötland
- * Öland
- * Östergötland

Alphabet and Pronunciation

[Consonants](#)

[Vowels](#)

[Stress](#)

Consonants

The following are pronounced and written as in English:

b, d, f, h, l, m, n, p, r, t, v, x

Notes:

g appears hard as in 'gun', but is never soft as in 'gem' (see below).

r is rolled as in Spanish, but when followed by *d, l, or t*, it is not pronounced and the preceding vowel is lengthened slightly. The combination ***rs*** is pronounced 'sh'. (Note: In southernmost Sweden, ***r*** is pronounced in the back of the throat as in German).

d, t, n are pronounced with the tongue touching the back of the teeth (dental)

s is always pronounced as in 'sell', never like *z*, as in 'has' or 'dogs'.

The following consonants are pronounced and/or spelled differently than in English, and require special attention:

c is pronounced like the *s* in 'sit' when followed by *e, i, y*. Elsewhere pronounced as *k*.

g is pronounced as *y* when followed by *e, i, y, ä, or ö*. So Swedish 'gäst' sounds like the first syllable in 'yesterday'. Before *a, o, å, u* it is pronounced hard as in English 'go'.

j is always pronounced like *y*, as in 'yes'.

k is pronounced somewhat, though not exactly, like *sh*, as in 'ship' before *e, i, y, ä, ö*. The actual sound is between 'sh' and the German *ch* in 'ich'. Try saying 'sh' with your tongue further back and your lips rounded. Before *a, o, å, u* pronounced hard, as in 'kill'.

The letters ***q, w, z*** appear only in foreign words and some proper names. ***q*** is pronounced as a hard 'k', ***w*** is always pronounced as 'v', and ***z*** is always pronounced as 's'.

Special combinations:

dj, gj, hj, lj are all pronounced like Swedish *j* (English *y*)

sch, sj, skj, stj are all pronounced (like ***k***, see above) between *sh* and the German *ch* in 'ich', but this holds before any vowel.

sk is pronounced as the above, but only before *e, i, y, ä, ö*. Elsewhere pronounced as in English 'scare' and 'scout'.

tj, kj are pronounced like the English *sh* in 'show', so is slightly different than the above sounds. These can occur before any vowel.

ch is pronounced as the Swedish ***tj/kj*** before *e, i, y, ä, ö*, but pronounced as the ***sj/stj*** sound before *a, o, å, u*. (not common)

ng usually this is one sound (velar nasal) as in 'singer' and 'rang', as opposed to the sound in 'finger'. But when followed by a stressed syllable it has the sound of 'finger'.

rg in this combination, the ***g*** is pronounced as *y*.

Note: keep in mind that Swedish has two sounds similar to the one English sound 'sh'.

Vowels

In standard Swedish all vowels are pure, meaning they lack the diphthongal offglides heard with English vowels.

Note: I am using American pronunciation for English examples (unless noted otherwise).

a a low back vowel. When long, like the sound in the British pronunciation of 'father'. When short, like the sound in 'must'.

å Like the sound in 'home' but without the glide.

e when short, the sound in 'set'. When long like the French *é* and the sound in 'make' but a pure vowel not a diphthong (no glide).

ä When short, the same as short **e**. When long, almost as long as the sound in 'plain' and 'air', but not quite as long as long **e** (and again with no glide).

i when long, *ee* as in 'feed' and 'machine'. When short, like the sound in 'bit'

ö when short, as in German *ö*, say French 'peu' and 'le'. When long, a longer version of **ö**, like German 'schön'.

o when long, much like *oo* in 'food'. When short, like the *oo* in 'good'. Note however, that **o** is pronounced in many words as **å** (in long and short positions).

y when long, like German *ü* and French *u* as in 'début'. English speakers, round lips as if to say *o* but say *ee*. When short, it is just a more clipped version. Remember, **y** is always a vowel in Swedish.

u When long, a more tightly pronounced version of **y**. When short, a looser, less rounded sound.

Note: In the order of the alphabet, **å**, **ä**, and **ö** follow **z**.

Stress

Stress in Swedish falls generally on the first syllable of the word. However, for words beginning with a prefix (be-, för, etc...) the stress will fall on the second syllable. For words ending in -era, the stress falls on the *e* of -era. And finally, for words of French origin, the stress falls on the final syllable (paraply, fåtölj, etc...)

This is just a general guideline, these rules are not concrete. In the lessons, important exceptions will be noted.

Lesson One: Vad är det?

[Vocabulary](#)

[Grammar](#)

[Exercises](#)

Page last updated June 18.

Vocabulary

Notes on pronunciation and stress are given where necessary

vad? - what? (pronounce /va/ with no d)

är - is, are (pronounce /ä/ with no r)

det - it, this (pronounce /de/ with no t)

vem? - who?

en bok - a book

ett bord - a table

ett äpple - an apple

ett brev - a letter

har - has, have

en student - a student

en pojke - a boy

en flicka - a girl

en man - a man, husband

en kvinna - a woman (note similarity to English 'queen')

här - here

Some sample sentences:

Det är ett äpple.

It is an apple

Vem har en bok?

Who has a book?

En kvinna är här.

A woman is here

Grammar

Gender

In Swedish there are two genders, there are **en-words** and **ett-words**. The majority of Swedish words are en-words. In the vocabulary lists, nouns will always be given with their corresponding articles.

Indefinite and Definite Articles

En and ett are the indefinite articles in Swedish, equivalent to the English 'a'. The indefinite article precedes the noun as in English:

en bok - a book
en student - a student
ett bord - a table

The definite article, however, is suffixed to the noun. En-words take the suffix **-en**, and ett-words take the suffix **-et**. If a noun already ends in a vowel, it just takes **-n** or **-t**

en bok --> boken
a book --> the book

en pojke --> pojken
a boy --> the boy

ett bord --> bordet
a table --> the table

ett äpple --> äpplet
an apple --> the apple

Verbs

Verbs in Swedish are even easier than in English. They don't change forms for person or number. So while verbs in French, German, Russian, Hungarian, and more have different forms for I, you, him, etc... and while English has a different form for he/she (I work, he works), Swedish has just one form. In the present tense verbs end (with only a handful of exceptions) in **-r**. Already you know two verbs: **är** (is, are) and **har** (has, have).

Here are more sample sentences using the grammar you have learned:

Kvinnan har en bok.
The woman has a book.

Vem är pojken?
Who is the boy?

Vad är det? Det är ett äpple.
What is that? It's an apple.

Mannen har brevet. (Notice the 'n' doubles in 'man')
The man has the letter.

Exercises

Translate the following sentences into English:

1. Flickan är här.
2. Vem har boken?
3. Vad är här?
4. Max har ett äpple.
5. Kvinnan har en man.

Translate the following into Swedish:

6. What is this?
7. This is a table.
8. Karin has a book.
9. The boy is a student.
10. Who is the student?

Click here for the [answers](#).

Answers to Exercises

 [Lesson One](#)

 [Lesson Two](#)

 [Lesson Three](#)

 [Lesson Four](#)

 [Review Lessons One to Four](#)

Lesson One:

1. The girl is here.
2. Who has the book?
3. What is here?
4. Max has an apple.
5. The woman has a husband.

6. Vad är det?
7. Det är ett bord.
8. Karin har en bok.
9. Pojken är student.
10. Vem är studenten?

[Back to Lesson One](#)

Lesson Two

- 1.The woman doesn't speak English.
- 2.She is from Denmark.
- 3.Where is the letter.
- 4.The boy lives in Iceland.
- 5.I have the book.
- 6.Flickan kommer från Sverige.
7. Varifrån kommer ni?
- 8.Vem här talar svenska?
- 9.Vi bor i Stockholm.
- 10.Vad är det?

[Back to Lesson Two](#)

Lesson Three


1. Whose pen is this?
2. It's not ours.
3. My house is in Stockholm.
4. When are you and your husband travelling to Finland?
5. Do you want to eat breakfast now?
6. Vi vill bo i Uppsala.
7. Han äter sitt äpple.
8. Jag har hans bok.
9. Deras bord är i vårt hus nu.
10. Gunnils pojke vill åka till Sverige.
11. Hennes man
12. Vårt hus
13. Ert äpple
14. Din stad
15. Hans brev
16. Deras bord

[Back to Lesson Three](#)

Lesson Four

1. He reads five newspapers every day.
2. Don't you know where he lives?
3. My house has only three rooms.
4. Many women in Sweden have dogs.
5. The man wants ten kronor.
6. Jag talar bara lite svenska.
7. Många män äter inte lunch.
8. Varje dag äter Gunnar frukost och läser två tidningar.
9. Vill du se brev från min vän i Norge?
10. Boken kostar åtta kronor.
11. ett, två, tre, fyra, fem, sex, sju, åtta, nio, tio.

Lesson Two: Var bor du?

 [Vocabulary](#)

 [Grammar](#)

 [Exercises](#)

Page last updated September 26.

Vocabulary

Notes on pronunciation and stress are given where necessary

var? - where?
bor - live(s)
du - you (singular)
i - in
talar - speak(s)
svenska - Swedish (language)
jag - I (pronounce /ja/ (long a) with no g)
engelska - English (language)
inte - not
från - from
varifrån? - from where?
kommer - come(s)
ja - yes
nej - no
Sverige - Sweden
där - there

Some sample sentences:

Talar du engelska?
Do you speak English?

Jag kommer från Sverige (Remember to pronounce g as /y/)
I come/am coming from Sweden.

Var bor du?
Where do you live?

Grammar

Questions

As you may have noticed above, forming questions in Swedish is done by simply inverting the subject and verb. In speech there is also an intonation difference, as in English.

Du bor i Stockholm. --> Bor du i Stockholm?
You live in Stockholm --> Do you live in Stockholm?

Personal Pronouns

Here are the personal pronouns in Swedish:

jag - I	vi - we
du - you	ni - you
han - he hon - she	de - they

Notes:

- Don't pronounce the 'g' in **jag**.
- De** is pronounced /dom/.
- Ni** is the polite form of 'you' (like French 'vous', German 'Sie', Hungarian 'maga'), but nowadays the use of **du** is very widespread. So there are no strict rules as in these other languages, and you are safe with **du** unless you feel you need to show extra respect to someone. Of

course, **ni** is the normal form for 'you' when speaking to more than one person.

Verbs

There are three categories of verbs in Swedish, each classified by the type of verb stem. The first class of verbs is the most prevalent. The stem of a verb in this class ends in **-a**. The stem is also the infinitive (to do, to say...). You know the verb **tala** 'to speak' and you learned last lesson that to form the present tense you just add **-r**.

tala --> jag talar
to speak --> I speak

The second class of verbs includes those whose stems end in a consonant. Many of the most common verbs fall into this class. For these verbs, add an **-a** to form the infinitive and **-er** to form the present tense. You know the verb **komma** 'to come'.

komm- --> komma --> vi kommer
stem --> to come --> we come

The third class of verbs includes those whose stems end in a vowel other than **a**. These verbs behave like those in the first class in the present tense. The stem is the infinitive and the present tense is formed simply by adding **-r**. You know the verb **bo** 'to live'.

bo --> de bor
to live --> they live

In future vocabulary lists, verbs will appear in their infinitive forms with a slash at the end of the stem. So **kommer** would appear **komm/a**, so you would know to drop the 'a' and add **-er** to form the present tense (If I just gave **komma**, you wouldn't know whether to form **kommer** or **kommar**). The verb **tala** would appear **tala/** indicating that you only need to add **-r** to form the present.

Note: The verb **är** has an irregular infinitive (**vara** - to be). Other irregular verbs will be covered in future lessons.

Negative

To make a sentence negative in Swedish, just add the particle **inte** after the verb.

-Kommer du från Sverige?
-Nej, jag kommer inte från Sverige.
-Varifrån kommer du?
-Jag kommer från Finland.

*-Do you come from Sweden?
-No, I don't come from Sweden.
-Where do you come from?
-I come from Finland.*

More sample sentences:

Hon talar inte engelska.
She doesn't speak English.

-Talar mannen svenska?
-Ja, han talar svenska.
*-Does the man speak Swedish?
-Yes, he speaks Swedish.*

Vi bor inte i New York.
We don't live in New York.

Exercises

Translate the following sentences into English:

1. Kvinnan talar inte engelska.
2. Hon är från Danmark.
3. Var är brevet?
4. Pojken bor i Island.
5. Jag har boken.

Translate the following into Swedish:

6. The girl comes from Sweden.
7. Where do you (plural) come from?
8. Who here speaks Swedish?
9. We live in Stockholm.
10. What is that?

Lesson Two

1. The woman doesn't speak English.
2. She is from Denmark.
3. Where is the letter.
4. The boy lives in Iceland.
5. I have the book.
6. Flickan kommer från Sverige.
7. Varifrån kommer ni?

8. Vem här talar svenska?
9. Vi bor i Stockholm.
10. Vad är det?

Lesson Three: Possession

[Vocabulary](#)

[Grammar](#)

[Exercises](#)

Page last updated September 26.

Vocabulary

Notes on pronunciation and stress are given where necessary

när - when?

gå/ - to go/walk

åk/a - to go (by vehicle), to leave

till - to

och - and

en stad - an city (note: 'staden' is always pronounced /stan/ (long 'a') in speech)

ett hus - a house

nu - now

vill - want (followed by infinitive)

Note: The English word 'will' used to have the meaning 'to want'

Norge - Norway (remember to pronounce g as /y/)

res/a - to travel

en skola - a school

en penna - a pen

ät/a - to eat

frukost - breakfast

idag - today

Some sample sentences:

När åker du till Sverige?

When are you going to Sweden?

Jag går till staden idag.
I'm going (by foot) to the city today.

Varför vill du resa i Norge?
Why do you want to travel in Norway?

Vill du äta frukost nu?
Do you want to eat breakfast now?

Grammar

Possession

Possession in Swedish is just like English. In English we add 's, as in "John's book" and "the doctor's office". Swedish just adds **s** with no apostrophe. Take a look:

Annes man äter lunch nu.
Anne's husband is eating lunch now.

Var är Gunnars penna?
Where is Gunnar's pen?

Vems hus är det?
Whose house is this?

Pojkens bok är inte här.
The boys book isn't here.

If a word ends in **-s**, **-x**, or **-z**, nothing is added:

Lars brev är från Sverige.
Lars' letter is from Sweden.

Possessive Pronouns

Swedish possessive pronouns are slightly more complicated than their English counterparts since Swedish has gender. Most possessive pronouns have three forms, one for en-words, one for ett-words, and one for plural words. For now you will just learn the singular forms:

	en- form	ett- form		en- form	ett- form
my	min	mitt	our	vår	vårt

you r	din	ditt	you r	er	ert
his	hans	hans	thei r	deras	deras
her	hennes	hennes			

Note that these can also mean "mine, yours, his, hers, ours, and theirs"

Example sentences:

Han bor i mitt hus.
He lives in my house.

Har du din penna?
Do you have your pen?

Vems bok är det? Det är min.
Whose book is that? It's mine.

Jag går till hans skola idag.
I am going to his school today.

Hennes man reser till Sverige.
Her husband is travelling to Sweden.

Sin/Sitt

There is one more thing to mention about possessive pronouns, and that is the word **sin** (ett-form **sitt**). This is used in place of either **hans**, **hennes**, or **deras** if the possessive pronoun is referring directly back to the subject. **Sin/sitt** can *never* appear in the subject. Look at these examples (don't worry if you don't know some vocabulary):

We live in his house. ---> Vi bor i hans hus.
Their table is in the house. ---> Deras bord är i huset.
She and her husband speak English. ---> Hon och hennes man talar engelska.

BUT:

She sees her husband. ---> Hon ser sin man.
He is going to his school. ---> Han går till sin skola.
They live with their child. (ett barn) ---> De bor med sitt barn.

Note the difference:

Hon ser sin man. ---> She sees her (own) husband.
Hon ser hennes man. ---> She sees her (some other woman's) husband.

Exercises

Translate the following sentences into English:

1. Vems penna är det?
2. Det är inte vår.
3. Mitt hus är i Stockholm.
4. När reser du och din man till Finland?
5. Vill ni äta frukost nu?

Translate the following into Swedish:

6. We want to live in Uppsala (a city near Stockholm)
7. He is eating his apple.
8. I have his book.
9. Their table is in our house now.
10. Gunnil's boy wants to go to Sweden. (careful with 'to go')

Attach the correct possessive pronouns to the following nouns:

Example: bok (jag) --> min bok

11. man (hon)
12. hus (vi)
13. äpple (ni)
14. stad (du)
15. brev (han)
16. bord (de)

Lesson Three

1. Whose pen is this?
2. It's not ours.
3. My house is in Stockholm.
4. When are you and your husband travelling to Finland?
5. Do you want to eat breakfast now?
6. Vi vill bo i Uppsala.
7. Han äter sitt äpple.
8. Jag har hans bok.
9. Deras bord är i vårt hus nu.
10. Gunnils pojke vill åka till Sverige.

11. Hennes man
12. Vårt hus
13. Ert äpple
14. Din stad
15. Hans brev
16. Deras bord

Lesson Four: Numbers 1-10 and Plurals

[Vocabulary](#)

[Grammar](#)

[Exercises](#)

Page last updated April 21, 1999.

Vocabulary

Notes on pronunciation and stress are given where necessary

Noun plurals are now given following the noun. (--) after a noun means that the plural is the same as the singular.

lite - a little

bara - only

vet/a - to know (present: jag vet, du vet, etc...)

många - many

se/ - to see

vän - a friend

ett rum (--) - a room

en dag (-ar) - a day

kosta/ - to cost

krona (-or) - "krona" (crown) Swedish unit of currency

läs/a - to read

en tidning (-ar) - a newspaper

en hund (-ar) - a dog

varje - each, every

Some sample sentences:

Jag läser tidningen varje dag.

I read the newspaper every day.

Vill du se min hund?.

Do you want to see my dog?

Jag vet inte! Jag talar bara lite svenska.

I don't know! I speak only a little Swedish. (pretty useful)

Grammar:

Numbers 1-10

Here are the Swedish numbers 1 to 10. They will be used in example sentences in the following grammar section dealing with plurals:

one	en/ett
two	två
three	tre
four	fyra
five	fem
six	sex
seven	sju
eight	åtta
nine	nio

ten	tio

Note that the numbers 2-10 don't change for en- or ett-words. Also, in the words 'nio' and 'tio', their second syllable is weakened. They are usually pronounced '**nie**' and '**tie**'.

Noun Plurals

Forming the plural of Swedish nouns is not quite as simple as in English. You will see that the great majority of nouns have plurals ending in **-r**, however some get **-or**, some get **-ar**, and some get **-er**. But first let's start simple:

Ett-words

Most ett-words have no plural marker. That is, they are the same in the plural as in the singular:

Singul ar	Plura l
barn	barn
bord	bord
hus	hus

But, when an ett-word ends in a vowel, the plural suffix is **-n**:

Singul ar	Plural

äpple	äpple n

En-words

En-words are a little trickier. But there are some general rules that account for the majority of words. Once you learn these rules, the only thing left to do is just practise and gain experience:

-or suffix: Words ending in **-a**, drop the final vowel and take this plural suffix. This is a pretty solid rule.

The final two suffixes have complex patterns. Since you know a very limited amount of words, I will just give a brief guide. In time you will develop a better sense of the rules. All nouns given in vocabulary lists will include the plural suffix.

-er suffix: Many foreign words fall in this category, as well as those words with irregular plurals (see below).

-ar suffix: Words ending in **-e**, **-en**, **-el**, **-ing**, monosyllabic words ending in a vowel (in this case the vowel does not drop).

flicka	flickor
krona	kronor
pojke	pojkar
dag	dagar
stude nt	student er

Some nouns double the final consonant (as when adding the definite article):

vä n	vänn er

Here are the nouns you know which have irregular plurals (involving a vowel change to the noun itself, with or without a suffix as well):

ma n	män
bok	böck er
sta d	städe r

Some example sentences:

Det kostar tio kronor.
This costs 10 kronor.

Jag har många böcker i mitt rum.
I have a lot of books in my room.

Mitt hus har sju rum.
My house has 7 rooms.

Åtta pojkar och fyra flickor äter lunch i staden idag.
8 boys and 4 girls are eating lunch in the city today.

Två studenter i min skola kommer från Sverige.
Two students in my school come from Sweden.

Don't worry if this seems like a lot. The next lesson will be a big review. You will get the hang of it!

Exercises

Translate the following sentences into English:

1. Han läser fem tidningar varje dag.
2. Vet du inte var han bor?
3. Mitt hus har bara tre rum.
4. Många kvinnor i Sverige har hundar
5. Mannen vill ha tio kronor.

Translate the following into Swedish:

6. I speak only a little Swedish.
7. Many men don't eat lunch.
8. Every day Gunnar eats breakfast and reads two newspapers.
9. Do you want to see letters from my friend in Norway?
10. The book costs 8 "kronor".

11. Now count to ten!

Lesson Four

1. He reads five newspapers every day.
2. Don't you know where he lives?
3. My house has only three rooms.
4. Many women in Sweden have dogs.
5. The man wants ten kronor.

6. Jag talar bara lite svenska.
7. Många män äter inte lunch.
8. Varje dag äter Gunnar frukost och läser två tidningar.
9. Vill du se brev från min vän i Norge?
10. Boken kostar åtta kronor.

11. ett, två, tre, fyra, fem, sex, sju, åtta, nio, tio.