

## GLI ARTICOLI

There are two types of articles: definite (the equivalent of the English *the*) and indefinite (the equivalent of the English *a/an*).

The form of the article varies according to the gender and number of the noun to which it refers. Also, the first letters of the noun affects the form of the article.

### Definite Articles / ARTICOLI DETERMINATIVI

<u>Standard MASCULINE</u> <u>Definite Article</u>  For masculine nouns	IL (singular)  Il libro > the book Il paese > the village Il tavolo > the table	I (plural)  I libri > the books I paesi > the villages I tavoli > the tables
<u>Second MASCULINE</u> <u>Definite Article</u>  For masculine nouns beginning with Z, Y or S + consonant	LO  Lo zio > the uncle Lo yogurt > the yogurt Lo specchio > the mirror	GLI  Gli zii > the uncles Gli yogurt > the yougurts Gli specchi > the mirrors
<u>Shortened</u> <u>MASCULINE Definite</u> <u>Article</u>  For masculine nouns beginning with a vowel	L'  L'albero > the tree L'albergo > the hotel L'amico > the friend	GLI  Gli alberi > the trees Gli alberghi > the hotels Gli amici > the friends

<u>Standard FEMININE</u> <u>Definite Article</u>  For feminine nouns	<b>LA</b>  La casa > the house La maglietta > the T-shirt La bicicletta > the bike	<b>LE</b>  Le case > the houses Le magliette > the T-shirts Le biciclette > the bikes
<u>Shortened FEMININE</u> <u>Definite Article</u>  For feminine nouns beginning with a vowel	<b>L'</b>  L'idea > the idea L'amicizia > the friendship L'uscita > the exit	<b>LE</b>  Le idee > the ideas Le amicizie > the friendships Le uscite > the exits

Please Note: The definite article is used much more in Italian than in English, ex. with generic and abstract nouns (amo la vita = I love life, mi piace il vino = I like wine), with seasons and times of day (mi piace l'inverno = I like winter; sono le 4 = it's 4 o'clock), with countries and regions (la Francia è vicina all'Italia = France is close to Italy).

## Indefinite Articles / ARTICOLI INDETERMINATIVI

<u>Standard MASCULINE</u> <u>Indefinite Article</u>  For masculine nouns	<b>UN</b> (singular)  Un libro > a book Un paese > a village Un tavolo > a table	There is <u>no plural form</u> of these articles. We use a different type of articles called <b>ARTICOLO PARTITIVO</b> (check the cheat sheet)
<u>Second MASCULINE</u> <u>Indefinite Article</u>	<b>UNO</b>  Uno zio > an uncle	/

For masculine nouns beginning with Z, Y or S + consonant	Uno yogurt > a yogurt Uno specchio > a mirror	
<u>Standard FEMININE Indefinite Article</u> For feminine nouns	UNA Una casa > a house Una maglietta > a T-shirt Una bicicletta > a bike	/
<u>Shortened FEMININE Indefinite Article</u> For feminine nouns beginning with a vowel	UN' Un'idea > an idea Un'amicizia > a friendship Un'uscita > an exit	/