

HW Oct 23, Some rules for neuter nouns (starting with “das”)

1. What is a diminutive noun?

2. Take a German noun and make your own diminutive from it.

3. Below are 7 rules that can help you identify German neuter nouns. Go to an online dictionary (see Deutsche Schule Website/Resources for some dictionaries) and translate the nouns below into English. Then, determine the number of the rule that tells you that the (German) noun is neuter, that is, why it gets the article “das” in front of it.

Neuter nouns, which require “das” are:

(1) **all** diminutive nouns, that is, nouns that end in **-chen** or **-lein**

(2) **all** nouns formed from an **infinitive**

(3) **most** nouns ending in **-nis, but not all(!)**

(4) **all** metals

(5) **most** nouns ending in **-ment**

(6) **almost all** nouns ending in **-tel (for example, all fractions)**

(7) **all** nouns ending in **-tum, -um**

das Aluminium () -

das Spielen () -

das Dokument () -

das Platin () -

das Häuschen () -

das Element () -

das Büchlein () -

das Monument () -

das Kindchen () -

das Bäumchen () -

das Kindlein () -

das Aquarium () -

das Terrarium () -

das Observatorium () -

das Kupfer () -

das Fahren () -

das Viertel () -

das Management () -

das Fünftel () -

das Heiligtum () -

das Sechstel () -

das Blei () -

das Siebtel (6) – the seventh

BUT: der Mörtel (n/a) -

(6) – the eighth

das Apartment () -