

Is this thing masculine or feminine?

Rules for finding a Spanish noun's gender:

A. Feminine Nouns:

- Nouns are the words for people, places and things. Spanish nouns that end in the letter "a" are almost always feminine.
- Nouns that end in "-ión" like "reunión" are always feminine.
- Nouns that end in "-dad" like "actividad" are always feminine.
- Words that refer specifically to females like "profesora" are feminine.

B. Masculine Nouns:

- Spanish nouns that end in the letter "o" are almost always masculine.
- The names of most sports are masculine, unless they have a specific feminine ending like in #2 and #3 above.
- The names of most languages are masculine like "el español."
- Nouns that refer specifically to males like "profesor" are masculine.
- Words that end in "L", "R", "S", or "Z" are often, but not always masculine.
- Many, but not all, Spanish nouns that end in "E" like (chocolate and restaurante) are masculine.
- Words that are compound words or a combination of more than one word are always masculine and use "el" like "el microondas."

C. Feminine Nouns that use "el":

- Many words that begin and end with the letter "a" and stress the first syllable of the word are feminine, but they use the articles "el" and "un" for pronunciation reasons.
 - For example, "la agua" would be hard to say, so the correct article is "el agua," even though the word is technically feminine.

**It is always best to learn the article along with each new word,
just to be sure!!**

Practice:

Write the correct word for “the” in front of each of the following Spanish nouns:

1. _____ grapadora

2. _____ aire

3. _____ calendario

4. _____ espejo

5. _____ impresora

6. _____ bufanda

7. _____ lámpara

8. _____ tranquilidad

9. _____ responsabilidad

10. _____ natación

11. _____ centavo

12. _____ pez

13. _____ hilo

14. _____ papel

15. _____ abanico

16. _____ sala

17. _____ cocina

18. _____ animal

19. _____ estacionamiento

20. _____ electricidad

21. _____ té

22. _____ anticipación

23. _____ ducha

24. _____ juego

25. _____ profesor

26. _____ aspiradora

27. _____ estante

28. _____ limpieza

29. _____ blanqueador

30. _____ universidad