**French Indefinite Articles**

The French indefinite article is the equivalent to *a/an* and *some* (but English often skips it). Do you ask about *one* thing, describe *a couple of* things that happened, and make plans for *an* outing that hasn’t yet been defined? If so, you’re an indefinite article kind of person, like the French! And as such, you should treat the **article indéfini** as the default article in French.

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| French Indefinite Articles | | | |
| **French Article** | **Usage in French** | **English Equivalent** | **Example** |
| un | Before masculine singular nouns | a/an | **un chat** (*a cat*) |
| une | Before feminine singular nouns | a/an | **une maison** (*a house*) |
| des | Before masculine or feminine plural nouns | some | **des enfants** (*some children*) |
| **de,** or **d’** before nouns beginning with a vowel or a mute **-h** | Instead of any indefinite article, after a negative verb | no or not any | **pas d’ordinateur** (*no computer*) |

Use the indefinite article when you talk about one or several individual things that you can count, as opposed to an entire category of things.

**Il y a un livre sur la table.** (*There is a book on the table.*)

**Tu as mangé une banane.** (*You ate a/one banana.*)

**Il a vu des lions au zoo.** (*He saw (some) lions at the zoo.*)

You also can use the indefinite articles **un** and **une** before an expression of quantity, like **une tranche de** (*a slice of*), **un morceau de** (*a piece of*), and **un peu de** (*a little bit of*).

In a sentence with a negative verb, **un, une,** and **des** are replaced by **de**, even if the noun it introduces is plural. Here are some examples.

**Il n’y a pas de souris dans notre garage.** (*There is not a mouse in our garage.*)

**Elle ne veut pas d’enfants.** (*She doesn’t want any children.*)