

Norwegian on the Web



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Basic Norwegian Words

Basic Norwegian words (Swadesh list)

A *Swadesh list* is a list of vocabulary with basic meanings. The original list, developed by Morris Swadesh, has been revised and adapted to several languages. Below you will find the NoW version of the Swadesh list. In this list there are basic words that are not included in the NoW texts. How many of these basic Norwegian words do you know?

I	jeg	a wife	ei/en kone
you (sg)	du	a husband	en mann
he	han	a mother	ei/en mor
hun	she	a father	en far
we	vi	a friend	en venn
you (pl)	dere	a name	et navn
they	de	a back	en rygg
this	denne, dette	a belly	en mage
that	den, det	a blood	et blod
here	her	a breast	et bryst
there	der	a ear	et øre
who	hvem	a eye	et øye
what	hva	a foot	en fot
where	hvor	a hair	et hår
when	når	a hand	en hånd, ei hand
how	hvordan	a head	et hode
which one	hvilken, hvilket, hvilke	a heart	et hjerte
all	alle	a knee	et kne
many	mange	a leg	et bein, et lår
much	mye	a mouth	en munn
some	noen	a neck	en nakke, en hals
few	få	a nose	en nese
other	annen, andre	a skin (of a person)	en hud
one	en	a tongue	ei/en tunge
two	to	a tooth	ei/en tann
three	tre	a meat	et kjøtt
four	fire	a animal	et dyr
five	fem	a bird	en fugl
a woman	ei/en kvinne	a dog	en hund
a man (adult male)	en mann	a fish	en fisk
a man (human being)	et menneske	a book	ei bok
people	folk	a city	en by
a child	et barn	a country	et land
a girl	ei/en jente	a thing	en ting
a boy	en gutt	a cloud	ei/en sky

a flower	en blomst	happy	glad
a forest	en skog	sad	trist
a fruit	en frukt	heavy	tung
a grass	et gress	light	lett
a ice	en is	long	lang
a lake	en innsjø, et vann	short	kort
a moon	en måne	new	ny
a mountain	et fjell	old	gammel
a river	ei/en elv	right (correct)	rett
a road	en vei	wrong	gal
a sea (ocean)	et hav	thick	tykk
a sky	en himmel	thin	tynn
a snow	en snø	left (side)	venstre
a star	ei/en stjerne	right (side)	høyre
a stone	en stein	quite	ganske
a sun	ei/en sol	very	veldig
a tree	et tre	to be	å være
a water	et vann	to be able to	å kunne
a wind	en vind	to be called	å hete
a day (daytime)	en dag	to be going to	å skulle
a night	ei/en natt	to begin	å begynne
a hour	en time	to breathe	å puste
a year	et år	to burn	å brenne
always	alltid	to come	å komme
never	aldri	to count	å telle
first	først	to die	å dø
afterwards	etterpå	to do	å gjøre
today	i dag	to drink	å drikke
black	svart	to eat	å spise
green	grønn	to fall	å falle
red	rød	to find	å finne
white	hvit	to fly	å fly
yellow	gul	to freeze	å fryse
bad	dårlig	to give	å gi
good	god	to have	å ha
big	stor	to have	å ha
small	liten	to hear	å høre
cold	kald	to hit	å slå
warm	varm	to hold (one's hand)	å holde
dry	tørr	to know (a fact)	å vite
wet	våt	to laugh	å le
empty	tom	to lie (on one's side)	å ligge
full	full	to like	å like

to live	å leve	not	ikke
to play	å leke	same	samme
to pull	å dra, å trekke	at	hos
to push	å dytte	in	i
to put	å legge	with	med
to rain	å regne	under	under
to read	å lese	without	uten
to say	å si	over	over
to see	å se	on	på
to sing	å synge	to	til
to sit	å sitte	between	mellom
to sleep	å sove	from	fra
to stand	å stå	yes	ja
to think	å tenke	no	nei
to throw	å kaste	thank you	takk
to tie	å binde	hello	hei
to understand	å forstå	goodbye	ha det
to walk	å gå	and	og
to wash	å vaske	if	hvis
to wipe	å tørke	for	for
to wish	å ønske	but	men
too	også	because	fordi

More about Swadesh lists: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swadesh_list