

SWEDISH

GERMANIC LANGUAGE OF 9 MILLION

1. Some Basic Phrases

God morgon
Good Morning

God kväll
Good Evening

Hej då / Adjö (more formal)
Goodbye

Tack (så mycket)
Thank you (very much)

Ja / Nej
Yes / No

Hur är det? / Hur har du det?
How are you?

Bra
Good / Fine

Vad heter du?
What's your name?

Jag heter...
I am called...

Trevligt att träffas!
Pleased to meet you!

Varifrån kommer du?
Where are you from?

Var bor du?
Where do you live?

Hur gammal är du?
How old are you?

Hej / Goddag
Hello / Good Day

God natt
Good Night

Var snäll
Please

Ingen orsak / Var så god
Don't mention it / You're welcome

Herr / Fru / Fröken
Mister / Misses / Miss

Hur mår du?
How are you? (How are you feeling?)

Inte så bra.
Not so good

Vad är ditt namn?
What's your name?

Mitt namn är...
My name is...

Välkommen!
Welcome!

Jag kommer från...
I'm from...

Jag bor i...
I live in...

Jag är ___ år (gammal).
I am ___ years old.

Talar du svenska?
Do you speak Swedish?

Jag talar engelska.
I speak English.

danska, norska, franska, italienska, spanska, tyska, holländska, ryska, japanska
Danish, Norwegian, French, Italian, Spanish, German, Dutch, Russian, Japanese

Ja, lite grann.
Yes, a little bit.

Nej, inte alls.
No, not at all.

Jag förstår [inte.]
I [don't] understand.

Jag vet [inte.]
I [don't] know.

Ursäkta / Förlåt
Excuse me / Pardon me

Ha det så bra!
Take care!

Vi ses senare / snart
See you later / soon

Hej / Hej då
Hi / Bye

Jag älskar dig.
I love you.

Jag saknar dig.
I miss you.

2. Pronunciation

Swedish letter(s)	English sound
ch	sh
ck	k
g	g before a, o, u, å, or unstressed e
g	j before e, i, y, ä, ö and after l or r
g	k before t
gj	j
k	soft ch sound, before e, i, y, ä, ö
q	k
sch	sh
ti(on)	sh
tj	soft ch sound
v, w	v
x	ks
z	s

3. Alphabet

a ah **k** kaw **u** ooh
b bay **l** el **v** vay
c say **m** em **x** eks
d day **n** en **y** ew
e ay **o** oh **z** say-tah
f ef **p** pay **å** aw (with lips rounded)
g gay **q** koo **ä** eh (as in bed)
h haw **r** air **ö** er (with lips rounded)
i ee **s** ess
j yee **t** tay

4. Nouns and Cases

Nouns in Swedish have two genders, common and neuter, which adjectives must agree with when modifying nouns. These genders are signified by the indefinite articles: **en** and **ett**. In the vocabulary lists, a noun followed by (n) means that it is a neuter noun and it takes the indefinite article ett. The majority of nouns in Swedish are common gender, so they take the indefinite article en.

The only case of nouns that is used in Swedish is the genitive (showing possession), and it is easily formed by adding an -s to the noun. This is comparable to adding -'s in English to show possession.

5. Articles and Demonstratives

There are two indefinite articles (corresponding to a and an) in Swedish: **en** and **ett**. En is used with most of the nouns (words denoting people almost always use en), but you will just have to learn which article goes with which noun. The definite article (the) is not a separate word like in most other languages. It is simply a form of the indefinite article attached to the end of the noun.

En words		Ett words	
Indefinite	Definite	Indefinite	Definite
en banan a banana	bananen the banana	ett bord a table	bordet the table
en stol a chair	stolen the chair	ett kök a kitchen	köket the kitchen
en gata a street	gaten the street	ett äpple an apple	äpplet the apple

This, that, these and *those* are expressed in Swedish by using **den**, **det** or **de** plus the word **här** (here) and **där** (there). The noun is always in the definite form after these demonstratives. And if any adjectives follow the demonstrative, they must add an -a to the ending.

with en words **with ett words** **with plural words**

<i>this / these</i>	den här biljetten - this ticket	det här tåget - this train	de här biljetterna - these tickets
<i>that / those</i>	den där biljetten - that ticket	det där tåget - that train	de där tågen - those trains

6. Subject (Nominative) Pronouns

Subject Pronouns

jag	<i>yah</i>	I	vi	<i>vee</i>	we
du	<i>doo</i>	you (singular)	ni	<i>nee</i>	you (plural)
han	<i>hahn</i>	he	de	<i>dahm</i>	they
hon	<i>hohn</i>	she			
den	<i>den</i>	it (with en words)			
det	<i>deh</i>	it (with ett words)			
man	<i>mahn</i>	one			

Note: **Man** can be translated as one, we, they or the people in general. When referring to nouns as *it*, you use **den** for en nouns, and **det** for ett nouns. Formerly, **du** was the informal you and **ni** was the formal, but these distinctions are rarely used anymore.

7. To Be and to Have

The present and past tenses of verbs in Swedish are very simple to conjugate. All the forms are the same for each personal pronoun. The infinitive of the verb *to be* in Swedish is **vara**, and the conjugated present tense form is **är** and the past tense is **var**. The infinitive of the verb *to have* is **ha**, and the conjugated present tense form is **har** and the past tense is **hade**.

	vara - to be			ha - to have			
I am	jag är	I was	jag var	I have	jag har	I had	jag hade
you are	du är	you were	du var	you have	du har	you had	du hade
he is	han är	he was	han var	he has	han har	he had	han hade
she is	hon är	she was	hon var	she has	hon har	she had	hon hade
it is	den är	it was	den var	it has	den har	it had	den hade
it is	det är	it was	det var	it has	det har	it had	det hade
one is	man är	one was	man var	one has	man har	one had	man hade
we are	vi är	we were	vi var	we have	vi har	we had	vi hade
you are	ni är	you were	ni var	you have	ni har	you had	ni hade
they are	de är	they were	de var	they have	de har	they had	de hade

To form the future tense of verbs, just add **ska** before the infinitive. **Jag ska vara** = I will be; **hon ska ha** = she will have; etc.

8. Useful Words

sometimes	ibland	already	redan
always	alltid	perhaps	kanske
never	aldrig	both	båda
often	ofta	some	någon, något, några
usually	vanligen	again	igen, åter
now	nu	between	mellan
and	och	a lot, many	många
but	men	of course	naturligtvis
or	eller	a little	lite gran
very	mycket	not at all	inte alls
here	här	almost	nästan
there	där	really?	
also	med	there is/are	det är
another		too bad	

9. Question Words

Who	vem	Whose	vems
What	vad	Which	vilken, vilket, vilka
Why	varför	Where to	vart
When	när	Where from	varifrån
Where	var	How	hur

Which has three different forms depending on the gender and number of the noun that follows it. *Vilken* is used with en words, *vilket* is used with ett words and *vilka* is used with plural words.

10. Cardinal and Ordinal Numbers

0	noll		
1	en, ett	1st	första
2	två	2nd	andra
3	tre	3rd	tredje
4	fyra	4th	fjärde
5	fem	5th	femte
6	sex	6th	sjätte

7	sju	7th	sjunde
8	åtta	8th	åttonde
9	nio	9th	nionde
10	tio	10th	tionde
11	elva	11th	elfte
12	tolv	12th	tolfte
13	tretton	13th	trettonde
14	fjorton	14th	fjortonde
15	femton	15th	femtonde
16	sexton	16th	sextonde
17	sjutton	17th	sjuttonde
18	arton	18th	artonde
19	nitton	19th	nittonde
20	tjugo	20th	tjugonde
21	tjugoen, tjuogoett	21st	tjugoförsta
22	tjugotvå	22nd	tjuogoandra
30	trettio	30th	trettionde
40	fyrtio	40th	fyrtionde
50	femtio	50th	femtionde
60	sextio	60th	sextionde
70	sjuttio	70th	sjuttionde
80	åttio	80th	åttionde
90	nittio	90th	nittionde
100	hundra	100th	hundra
1,000	tusen	1,000th	tusende
million	en miljon		
billion	en miljard		
trillion	en biljon		

11. Days of the Week / Veckans dagar

Monday	måndag
Tuesday	tisdag
Wednesday	onsdag
Thursday	torsdag
Friday	fredag
Saturday	lördag
Sunday	söndag
day	dag
morning	morgon
afternoon	eftermiddag
evening	afton (before 6 pm) / kväll

night	natt
today	idag
tomorrow	imorgon
tonight	ikväll
yesterday	igår
last night	igår natt
week	vecka
weekend	helg
daily	daglig
weekly	veckotalig or var/varje vecka

Note: To say "on" a certain day, use **på** before the day.

12. Months of the Year / Årets månader

January	januari
February	februari
March	mars
April	april
May	maj
June	juni
July	juli
August	augusti
September	september
October	oktober
November	november
December	december
month	månad
year	år
monthly	månatalig or var/varje månad
yearly	årlig

Note: To say "in" a certain month, use **i** before the month.

13. Seasons

Winter	vinter	in (the) winter	på vintern
Spring	vår	in (the) spring	på våren
Summer	sommar	in (the) summer	på sommaren
Fall	höst	in (the) fall	på hösten

Note: You can also use **i** before the names of the months to express *this*: **i vinter** = this winter

14. Directions

North	norr
South	söder
East	öster
West	väster

15. Colors

orange	orange
pink	skär, skärt, skära
purple	lila
blue	blå, blått, blåa
yellow	gul, gult, gula
red	röd, rött, röda
black	svart, svart, svarta
brown	brun, brunt, bruna
gray	grå, grått, gråa
white	vit, vitta, vita
green	grön, grönt, gröna

Note: Since colors are adjectives, most of them decline according to which words they are used with. The first word above is used with en words, the second with ett words and the third with plural words. Some words remain the same for all three. Another color is **rosa** (also indeclinable) which means pink or rose-colored.

16. Time / Tid

What time is it?	Vad är klockan?
(It is) 2 AM	Klockan är två på natten
2 PM	14.00 (but said as två)
6:20	tjugo över sex
half past 3	halv fyra
quarter past 4	kvalt över fyra
quarter to 5	kvalt i fem
10 past 11	tio över elva
20 to 7	tjugo i sju
noon	mitt på dagen
midnight	midnatt
in the morning	på morgonen
in the evening	på kvällen
It's exactly...	den är precis

At 8.	omkring åtta
early	tidigt
late(r)	sent (senare)

17. Weather / Väder

How's the weather today?	Hur är vädret idag?
It's cold	det är kallt
beautiful	vackert
hot	hett
clear	klart
icy	isig
warm	varm
windy	vindigt
cloudy	molnigt
hazy	disigt
muggy	rått
humid	fuktigt
foggy	dimmig
It's snowing	det snöar
It's raining	det regnar
It's freezing	det är kallt/kyligt

18. Family / Familj

Parents	föräldrar
Mother	mamma / mor / moder
Father	pappa / far / fader
Son	son
Daughter	dotter
Brother	bror
Sister	syster
Grandfather	farfar (father's father) / morfar (mother's father)
Grandmother	farmor (father's mother) / mormor (mother's mother)
Grandson	sonson (son's son) / dotterson (daughter's son)
Granddaughter	sondotter (son's daughter) / dotterdotter (daughter's daughter)
Niece	brorsdotter (brother's daughter) / systerdotter (sister's daughter)
Nephew	brorson (brother's son) / systerson (sister's son)
Cousin	kusin
Uncle	farbror (father's brother) / morbror (mother's brother)
Aunt	faster (father's sister) / moster (mother's sister)
Boy	pojke

Girl	flicka
Man	man
Woman	kvinna
Friend (m)	vän
Friend (f)	väninna

19. To Know People and Facts

	känna - to know people	veta - to know facts
<i>present</i>	känner	vet
<i>past</i>	kände	visste
<i>future</i>	ska känna	ska veta

20. Formation of Plural Nouns

An **en** word takes one of the following endings when it is pluralized: **or**, **ar**, **er**. An **ett** word takes an **n** or **no ending at all**.

Indefinite Plural

En words that end in -a	drop -a and add -or	en klocka - klockor	a watch - (some) watches
En words that end in -e	drop -e and add -ar	en pojke - pojkar	a boy - (some) boys
En words with stress on last vowel	add -er	en kamrat - kamrater	a friend - (some) friends
Ett words that end in a vowel	add -n	ett ställe - ställen	a place - (some) places
Ett words that end in a consonant	no ending	ett rum - rum	a room - (some) rooms

To form the definite plural, you must first form the indefinite plural and then add these endings to that word.

Indef. Plural En words	add -na	klockor - klockorna	(some) watches - the watches
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Indef. Plural Ett words that end in a vowel	add -a	ställen - ställena	(some) places - the places
Indef. Plural Ett words that end in a consonant	add -en	rum - rumen	(some) rooms - the rooms

There are some nouns that change their vowel in the plural. These nouns usually take the -er ending when forming the indefinite plural.

en natt - nätter	a night - nights	en bonde - bönder	a farmer - farmers
en stad - städer	a town - towns	en ledamot - ledamöter	a member - members
en hand - händer	a hand - hands	en fot - fötter	a foot - feet
en tand - tänder	a tooth - teeth	en rot - rötter	a root - roots
en strand - stränder	a beach - beaches	en bok - böcker	a book - books
en rand - ränder	a stripe - stripes	en man - män	a man - men
ett land - länder	a country - countries	mannen - männen	the man - the men

21. Possessive Adjectives and Pronouns

	<i>with en words</i>	<i>with ett words</i>	<i>with plural words</i>
<i>my / mine</i>	min	mitt	mina
<i>your / yours</i>	din	ditt	dina
<i>his / her / its / their</i>	sin	sitt	sina
<i>his / his</i>	hans	hans	hans
<i>her / hers</i>	hennes	hennes	hennes
<i>its / its</i>	dess	dess	dess
<i>our / ours</i>	vår	vårt	våra
<i>your / yours</i>	er	ert	era
<i>their / theirs</i>	deras	deras	deras

The same forms are used for possessive adjectives that are used directly before nouns and for possessive pronouns that replace a noun. For example, *this is my car* and *this is mine* would be translated as **det här är min bil** and **det här är min**.

Sin, sitt and **sina** can only be used when the third person possessive adjective refers to the subject of the same clause. These words can be translated as *his, her, its or their*. Generally, if you cannot insert "own" after the possessive adjective in English, you cannot use *sin/sitt/sina*. *Sin/sitt/sina* cannot be used with the subject because it is not referring to anything else.

Per besöker **sin** mamma. = Per visits his (own) mother. (Sin refers back to Per.)
 Eva ringer hans mamma. = Eva calls his mother. (Hans refers to Per, not Eva.)

22. To Do/Make and To Become

	göra - to do/make	bli - to become
<i>present</i>	gör	blir
<i>past</i>	gjorde	blev
<i>future</i>	ska göra	ska bli

23. Work and School

actor	skådespelare	judge	domare
actress		lawyer	advokat
author	skrifställare	mechanic	montör
baker	bagare	musician	musiker
baker's shop		nurse	sjuksköterska
bookseller	bokhandlare	official	ämbetsman
bookshop	boklåda	optician (eye doctor)	målare
businessman		painter	fotograf
butcher	slaktare	photographer	polikonstapel
butcher's shop		policeman	brevbärare
pharmacist	apotekare	postman	
pharmacy	apotek (n)	priest	förläggare
cook	kokerska	publisher	
customer	kund	scientist	skomakare
dentist	tandläkare	shoemaker	butik
doctor	läkare	shop, store	sängare
employee	ingeniör	singer	
engineer		student	kirurg
fisherman	trädgårdsmästare	surgeon	skräddare
gardener	håfrisör	tailor	lärare
hairdresser	juvelerare	teacher	maskinskriverska
jeweler	journalist	typist	arbetare
journalist		workman	

24. Prepositions

Prepositions of Position/Location

vid	by, at, next to	position next to something with no contact
på	on, in, at	position on something that is seen as line or surface with contact; also used with islands, addresses, and particular places, such as bank, post office, cinema, hospital, library, etc.
i	in	position in something that is seen to have volume

(room, containers, etc.); also used with countries, cities, villages, etc.

hos at the house of used when someone is at someone else's house or place of business

Prepositions of Direction/Movement

till to

från from

genom through

längs along

över across, over

mot towards, to

Three exceptions to using på with particular places include school, work, and the shop: **i skolan, i affären, i kyrkan.**

25. Countries and Nationalities

Africa	Afrika	Great Britain	Storbritanien
African		British	
America	Amerika	Greece	Grekland
American	amerikan	Greek	grek
Argentina	Argentina	Holland	Holland
Argentine	argentinare	Dutchman	holländare
Asia	Asien	Hungary	Ungern
Asian		Hungarian	
Australia		Ireland	Irland
Australian		Irishman	irländare
Austria	Österrike	Italy	Italien
Austrian		Italian	italienare
Belgium	Belgien	Japan	Japan
Belgian	belgier	Japanese	japanes
Brazil	Brasilien	Norway	Norge
Brazilian	brasilianare	Norwegian	norrman
Canada		Poland	Polen
Canadian		Pole	polak
China	Kina	Portugal	Portugal
Chinese	kines	Portuguese	portugis
Denmark	Danmark	Russia	Ryssland
Dane	dansk	Russian	ryss
Egypt		Scotland	Skottland
Egyptian		Scotsman	skotte
England	England	Spain	Spanien
Englishman	engelsman	Spaniard	spanior
Europe	Europe	Sweden	Sverige
European	europé	Swede	svensk
Finland		Switzerland	Schweiz
Finn		Swiss	schweizare
France	Frankrike	Turkey	Turkiet
Frenchman	fransman	Turk	
German	Tyskland	United States	Förenta Staterna
Germany	tysk		

26. Negative Sentences

To make a sentence negative in Swedish, simply add **inte** after the verb. If there is an auxiliary verb and a main verb, **inte** goes between the two. In addition, if you answer "yes" to a negative question, you must use **jo** instead of **ja**.

27. Short Answers

A yes/no question can be answered with a short phrase, just as in English, except in Swedish the main verb is not usually repeated. Instead, the verb **göra** (to do/make) is used with the pronoun **det** and the subject of the question. Some verbs are not replaced by **göra** and are repeated in the short answer, such as **vara** and **ha**.

Ja (or *Nej*) + **det** + **gör** (if in present) or **gjorde** (if in past) + **Subject** + *inte* (if the answer is *nej*)

Arbetar hon här? Does she work here?
Ja, det gör hon. Yes, she does.
Nej, det gör hon inte. No, she doesn't.

Är de glad? Are they happy?
Ja, det är de. Yes, they are.
Nej, det är de inte. No, they are not.

28. To Come and To Go

	komma - to come	gå - to go
<i>present</i>	kommer	går
<i>past</i>	kom	gick
<i>future</i>	ska komma	ska gå

29. Common Auxiliary Verbs

	kunna - to be able to, can	vilja - to want to	få - to be allowed to	--- have to, must
<i>present</i>	kan	vill	får	måste
<i>past</i>	kunde	ville	fick	måste

	skola - have to	böra- should, ought to	bruka - usually, used to	behöva - need to
<i>present</i>	ska	bör	brukar	behöver
<i>past</i>	skulle	börde	brukade	behövde

Vi kan tala engelska. We can speak English.

Han kunde inte spela. He could not play.

Sven vill sova. Sven wants to sleep.

Hon vill ha kaffe. She wants coffee. (When **vilja** is followed by a noun, **ha** is added before the noun.)

Du får röka. You may smoke.

De måste gå hem nu. They must go home now.

Du får inte röka. You must not smoke. (*Must not* is translated with **får inte** rather than *måste inte*.)

Jag brukar dricka kaffe efter lunch. I usually drink coffee after lunch. (**Brukar** in the present tense means **usually** + main verb.)

30. Conjugating Regular Verbs

Infinitives in Swedish end in -a. To form the present tense of verbs, either **add -r** or **remove the -a** and **add -er**. The same form is used for all subject pronouns. To form the past tense, add -de to the present tense form of -ar verbs and to the stem of -er verbs (infinitive minus -a). But if the stem ends in a voiceless consonant (p, t, k, and s), then add -te instead.

Infinitive		Present		Past	
tala	<i>to talk</i>	tal ^r	<i>talk(s)</i>	talade	<i>talked</i>
öppna	<i>to open</i>	öppn ^r	<i>open(s)</i>	öppnade	<i>opened</i>
fråga	<i>to ask</i>	fråga ^r	<i>ask(s)</i>	frågade	<i>asked</i>
ringa	<i>to ring</i>	ring ^r	<i>ring(s)</i>	ringde	<i>rang</i>
köpa	<i>to buy</i>	köp ^r	<i>buy(s)</i>	köpte	<i>bought</i>
röka	<i>to smoke</i>	rök ^r	<i>smoke(s)</i>	rökte	<i>smoked</i>

31. Reflexive Verbs

Some verbs in Swedish are reflexive verbs, in that the action by the subject is performed by itself. This is comparable to the -self or -selves pronouns used in English with some verbs, such as *he behaves himself*. Most of the time, verbs that are reflexive in Swedish are not reflexive in English. To conjugate these verbs, simply add these pronouns after the verb:

mig (mej)	myself	oss	ourselves
dig (dej)	yourself	er	yourselves
sig (sej)	himself/herself/itself	sig (sej)	themselves

The forms in parentheses are used in colloquial (spoken and written) Swedish. In fact, **mig, dig and sig** are pronounced as if they were written **mej, dej and sej**.

32. Present and Past Perfect

The present and past perfect tenses consist of two parts: **ha/hade** and the **supine form** of the main verb. This is a compound tense that corresponds to **has/have/had** and a **past participle** in English. The main difference between Swedish and English in this tense, however, is that Swedish uses the supine form of the verb instead of the past participle.

To form the supine, -ar verbs add -t to the infinitive (or replace -r with -t if using the present tense); while -er verbs replace -a with -t in the infinitive (or drop -er and add -t if using the present tense).

<i>Infinitive</i>	<i>Present tense</i>	<i>Supine</i>	<i>Translation</i>
öppna	öppnar	öppnat	opened
fråga	frågar	frågat	asked
läsa	läser	läst	read
köpa	köper	köpt	bought

Jag ha läst boken. I have read the book.
Hon hade öppnat dörren. She had opened the door.

33. Irregular Past and Supine Forms

Some -er verbs (and never -ar verbs) have irregular past and supine forms. Sometimes these involve a vowel change and lack of ending.

Infinitive	Past	Supine	Translations
binda	band	bundit	<i>to bind / bound / bound</i>
brinna	brann	brunnit	<i>to burn / burned / burned</i>
dricka	drack	druckit	<i>to drink / drank / drunk</i>
finna	fann	funnit	<i>to find / found / found</i>
försvinna	försvann	försvunnit	<i>to disappear / disappeared / disappeared</i>
hinna	hann	hunnit	<i>to manage / managed / managed</i>
rinna	rann	runnit	<i>to run, flow / ran, flowed / run, flowed</i>
sitta	satt	suttit	<i>to sit / sat / sat</i>
slippa	slapp	sluppit	<i>to get out of / got out of / gotten out of</i>
spricka	sprack	spruckit	<i>to split / split / split</i>
springa	sprang	sprungit	<i>to run / ran / run</i>
sticka	stack	stuckit	<i>to stick / stuck / stuck</i>
vinna	vann	vunnit	<i>to win / won / won</i>
bita	bet	bitit	<i>to bite / bit / bitten</i>
gripa	grep	gripit	<i>to grip / gripped / gripped</i>
lida	led	lidit	<i>to suffer / suffered / suffered</i>
rida	red	ridit	<i>to ride / rode / ridden</i>
skina	sken	skinit	<i>to shine / shone / shone</i>
skriva	skrev	skrivit	<i>to write / wrote / written</i>

slita	slet	slitit	<i>to wear out / wore out / worn out</i>
stiga	steg	stigit	<i>to rise / rose / risen</i>
tiga	teg	tigit	<i>to be silent / was silent / been silent</i>
vrid	vred	vridit	<i>to turn / turned / turned</i>
bjuda	bjöd	bjudit	<i>to invite / invited / invited</i>
ljuga	ljög	ljugit	<i>to lie / lied / lied (to tell a lie)</i>
sjunga	sjöng	sjungit	<i>to sing / sang / sung</i>
skjuta	sköt	skjutit	<i>to shoot / shot / shot</i>
bryta	bröt	brutit	<i>to break / broke / broken</i>
flyga	flög	flugit	<i>to fly / flew / flown</i>
flyta	flöt	flutit	<i>to float / floated / floated</i>
frysa	frös	frusit	<i>to freeze / froze / frozen</i>
knyta	knöt	knutit	<i>to tie up / tied up / tied up</i>
krypa	kröp	krupit	<i>to crawl / crawled / crawled</i>

34. Short Verbs

A few infinitives in Swedish do not end in -a. These are short verbs and they end in a long, stressed vowel. The infinitive is the same as the imperative, and the present tense is formed by adding -r. The past tense is formed by adding -dde to the infinitive, and the supine is formed by adding -tt to the infinitive. However, a few of the short verbs have an irregular form in the past.

Infinitive / Imperative	Present Tense	Past Tense	Supine	Translation
<i>Short verbs with a regular past</i>				
tro	tror	trodde	trott	<i>believe, think</i>
ske	sker	skedde	skett	<i>happen</i>
nå	når	nådde	nått	<i>reach</i>
bo	bor	bodde	bott	<i>live</i>
må	mår	mådde	mått	<i>feel (of health)</i>
klä	klär	klädde	klätt	<i>dress</i>
<i>Short verbs with an irregular past</i>				
få	får	fick	fått	<i>get, receive</i>
gå	går	gick	gått	<i>go, walk</i>
ge	ger	gav	gett	<i>give</i>
se	ser	såg	sett	<i>see</i>
dö	dör	dog	dött	<i>die</i>
stå	står	stod	stått	<i>stand</i>
be	ber	bad	bett	<i>ask, pray</i>

35. Irregular Verbs

Several verbs in Swedish are considered irregular because they do not follow the rules for the different conjugations. These forms need to be memorized since these verbs are very common.

Infinitive	Imperative	Present	Past	Supine	Translation
vara	var	är	var	varit	<i>be</i>
ha	ha	ha	hade	haft	<i>have</i>
komma	kom	kommer	kom	kommit	<i>come</i>
göra	gör	gör	gjorde	gjort	<i>do, make</i>
ta	ta, tag	tar	tog	tagit	<i>take</i>
säga	säg	säger	sa, sade	sagt	<i>say</i>
veta	vet	vet	visste	vetat	<i>know</i>
låta	låt	låter	lät	låtitt	<i>let</i>
hålla	håll	håller	höll	hållit	<i>hold</i>
heta	het	heter	hette	hetat	<i>be called</i>
fara	far	far	for	farit	<i>go</i>
bära	bär	bär	bar	burit	<i>carry</i>
dra	dra, drag	drar	drog	dragit	<i>pull, drag</i>
ligga	ligg	ligger	låg	legat	<i>lie (down)</i>
lägga	lägg	lägger	la, lade	lagt	<i>put</i>
sätta	sätt	sätter	satte	satt	<i>put</i>
slå	slå	slår	slog	slagit	<i>hit</i>
falla	fall	faller	föll	fallit	<i>fall</i>
äta	ät	äter	åt	ätit	<i>eat</i>
sova	sov	sover	sov	sovit	<i>sleep</i>
stjåla	stjål	stjåler	stal	stulit	<i>steal</i>
gråta	gråt	gråter	gråt	gråtit	<i>cry</i>
sålja	sålj	såljer	sålde	sålt	<i>sell</i>
vålja	vålj	våljer	valde	valt	<i>choose</i>
vånja	vånj	vånjer	vande	vant	<i>accustom</i>
svålja	svålj	svåljer	svalde	svalt	<i>swallow</i>
skilja	skilj	skiljer	skilde	skilt	<i>separate</i>

36. Food and Meals

bacon		salad	
beef	fläsk (n)	salt	sallad
beer	oxkött (n)	sandwich	salt (n)
beverage	öl (n)	sauce	smörgås
biscuit	dryck	sausage	sås
bread		soup	korv
breakfast	bröd	stew	soppa
butter	frukost	sugar	
cake	smör (n)	supper	socker (n)
cheese	kaka	tea	te (n)
chicken	ost	veal	kalvkött (n)
chop	kyckling	vegetables	grönsaker
coffee		vinegar	ättika
cream	kaffe	wine	vin (n)
dessert	grädde	basin	skål
dinner		bottle	flaska
egg	middag	can	burköpsnarre
fried egg	ägg (n)	opener	kaffekanna
soft-boiled	stäkta ägg	coffee pot	
egg	koktaägg	colander	korkskruv
fat	fett (n)	corkscrew	kopp
flour	mjöl (n)	cup	fat (n)
ham	skinka	dish	gaffel
honey	honing	fork	stekpanna
jam	sylt (n)	frying pan	glas (n)
lunch	lunch	glass	kruka
meal		jug	kittel
meat	kött (n)	kettle	kniv
milk	mjök	knife	lock (n)
mustard	senap	lid	servet
mutton	fårkött (n)	napkin	tallrik
oil	olja	plate	tefat (n)
omelet		saucer	kastrull
pepper	peppar	saucepan	sked
pork	fläsk (n)	spoon	bordduk
roast		tablecloth	tekanna
roll	bulle	teapot	

37. Fruits and Vegetables

almond		strawberry	
apple		tree	jordgubbe
apple tree	äpple (n)	tree trunk	träd (n)
apricot	äppletrad (n)	vine	stam
ash	aprikos	walnut	vinstock
bark	ask	walnut tree	valnöt
beech	bark	willow	
berry	bok	artichoke	pil
birch	bär (n)	asparagus	
blackberry	björk	barley	sparris
branch	björnbär (n)	bean (broad)	korn (n)
cherry	gren	bean	böna
cherry tree	körsbär (n)	(kidney)	
chestnut		brussel	brysselkål
chestnut	kastanje	sprouts	kål
tree		cabbage	morot
currant	vinbär (n)	carrot	blomkål
cypress		cauliflower	
date		celery	
elm	alm	chives	
fig	fikon (n)	corn	gurka
fig tree		cucumber	
fir	gran	eggplant	vitlök
fruit	frukt	garlic	
grapes	vindruva	herb	pepparrot
hazelnut	hasselnöt	horse-radish	lins
kernel	kärn	lentil	sallad
laurel		lettuce	
leaf	blad (n)	maize	mynta
lemon	citron	mint	svamp
lime tree	lind	mushroom	havre
melon		oats	lök
mulberry		onion	persilja
tree	ek	parsley	ärta
oak		pea	potatis
olive		potato	
olive tree	apelsin	pumpkin	rädisa
orange		radish	ris (n)
orange tree	persika	rice	råg
peach	päron (pl)	rye	
pear		sage	
pear tree	tall	seed	spenat
pine	ananas	spinach	stjälk
pineapple	plommon (n)	stalk	
plum	poppel	tomato	rova
poplar	hallon (n)	turnip	hvete (n)
raspberry	rot	wheat	
root			

38. Commands

Verbs that end in -ar in the present tense simply remove the -r to form the command (imperative). Verbs that end in -er in the present tense remove the -er to form the command. You cannot form the imperative if you only know the infinitive and not if the verb takes -ar or -er in the present tense. But if you do know that an infinitive is an -ar verb, you leave the -a in the imperative, and if the infinitive is an -er verb, you remove the -a.

Infinitive	Imperative	Translation
öppnar	öppna!	open!
väntar	vänta!	wait!
skriver	skriv!	write!
läser	läs!	read!

39. Asking Questions

Yes/No questions: Invert the subject and verb so that the verb begins the question. In English, we use the dummy verb "do" with the main verb, but forming questions in Swedish is much simpler.

Arbetar han? Does he work?
Regnar det? Is it raining?

Question Words: The question word begins the question, and the verb comes next, followed by the subject. In English, the construction would be question word + a form of "do" + subject + main verb.

Var bor Sten? Where does Sten live?
Vad gör Elsa? What does Elsa do?

40. Holiday Phrases

Merry Christmas!
Happy Easter!
Happy New Year!
Happy Birthday!

The Swedish National Anthem:

Du gamla, du fria, du fjällhöga Nord,
Du tysta, du glädjerika sköna!
Jag hälsar dig, vänaste land uppå jord,
Din sol, din himmel, dina ängder gröna.
Din sol, din himmel, dina ängder gröna.

Du tronar på minnen från fornstora da'r,
då ärat ditt namn flög över jorden.
Jag vet att du är och du blir, vad du var.
Ja, jag vill leva, jag vill dö i Norden.
Ja, jag vill leva, jag vill dö i Norden.

*You ancient, free and mountainous North,
Of quiet, joyful beauty,
I greet you, loveliest land on earth,*

*Your sun, your sky, your green meadows.
Your sun, your sky, your green meadows.*

*You are throned on memories of olden days
When the honour of your name spread over the earth.
I know that you are and will remain what you were.
Oh, may I live, may die in the Nordic North!
Oh, may I live, may die in the Nordic North!*
