

Da & Wo compounds Summary

- In German, to refer to things or ideas already established in context, a da-compound, consisting of da + preposition is usually used.

Ich spreche **über den Film**.

I'm talking about the movie.

Sprichst du auch **darüber**?

Are you also talking **about it**?

- Some of the compounds are part of a verb package....

s. ärgern über

bitten um

böse sein auf

denken an

glauben an

s. interessieren für

kämpfen gegen

klopfen an

lachen über

schreiben an

schreiben über

sprechen über

verliebt sein in

Angst haben vor

fahren mit

helfen bei

sterben an

wohnen bei

- Some of the compounds are common sense.....

under the bed – darunter

on top of the fridge – darauf

on the wall - daran

- To refer to people, never use a da-compound. Simply use the preposition and the corresponding pronoun.

Ich spreche **über Bob**.

I'm talking about Bob.

Ich spreche **über ihn**.

I'm talking about him.

- When asking about things that are implied, a wo-compound, consisting of wo + preposition is usually used.

Worüber sprichst du?

What are you talking about?

Worunter ist die Katze?

What is the cat under?

- To refer to people, never use a wo-compound. Simply use the preposition and wem when the preposition is in dative and wen when the preposition is in accusative.

Über wen sprichst du?

Who are you talking about?

Vor wem hast du Angst?

Who are you afraid of?

- If the preposition starts with a vowel add an r

darüber

daran

Worin

Worauf

- Woher/Wohin & Dahin/Daher (use with motion)

wohin means into where

woher means from where

dahin means into there

daher means from there

- hin & her (use with motion)

hin – away from speaker

Birgit geht die Treppe hinauf.

Birgit goes up the stairs.

Geh heraus!

Go out!

her – toward speaker

Paul kommt die Treppe herunter. Komm herein!

Paul comes down the stairs.

Come inside!