

Norwegian Compounds

Sammensatte verb

Norwegian Compound Exercises

Compound Words - Sammensatte ord

Noun+noun

In Norwegian we often construct a compound word where in English we would write two words or a construction with of: In modern Norwegian it is possible to link together as many as 4 different words. *firemannsbolig* - house for 4 families. The two words are often linked with an **s** when some sort of possession is involved: *Månedskort* - a month's travel card, *dagsreise* - a day's journey, *parkeringsplass* - a place for parking, *universitetsstudent* - university student (student of university). NB. Compound words have to form a concept.

Or, they may be linked with an e, often when the first element refers to animals or people, *barneskole* - elementary school, *Dyrebeskyttelse* - protection of animals, *påskedagen* - the first day of Easter.

Or, no linking letter at all, *kulepenn* - ball point pen, *ferietur* - holiday trip.

Note: *vinterdag* / *sommerdag* / *høstdag* / *vårdag* / *vårkveld* etc. where in English we often would use **s** to mark possession i.e. summer's day.

Adjective+noun

Søtsaker - sweet things i.e. sweets

Storby - a large city

Hurtigtog - fast train

Verb+noun

Skrivebok / *skrivepaper* - exercise book / writing paper

Spisestue - dining room

Hoppetau - skipping rope

Preposition+noun

Overtro - superstition

Baksete - back seat

Underverden - under world

Noun+participle (often to do with some kind of catastrophe)

Krigsskadet - hurt in the war

Trafikkskadet - hurt in the traffic

Jordsjølvrasket - hit by earth quake

Knivstukset / *knivdrept* - hurt / killed by knife

Adverb+noun

Nærmiljø - local community

Nærbutikk - local shop

Uteligger - homeless (sleeps outside)

Innemenneske / *utemenneske* - person who prefers to be inside / outside

Long words

Some compound words can be extremely long, composed of three or more words:

Sykehuspolitikk (*syke/hus/politikk*) - hospital policy

Menneskerettighetserklæring (*menneske/rettighets/erklæring*) - declaration of human rights

Hovedstadspostkontorer (*hoved/stads/post/kontorer*) - post offices in the capital

Arbeidsgiveransvaret (*arbeids/giver/ansvaret*) - the work giver's [employer's] responsibility