

Singular and Plural

Luxembourgish uses the verb **ginn** to express the passive. For the singular, we use the form **gëtt**, for the plural, we use the form **ginn**:

For example:

I am making my cocktail.

Ech maache mäi Cocktail. (active)

My cocktail is being made.

Mäi Cocktail gëtt gemaacht. (passive)

I am making our cocktails.

Ech maachen eis Cocktailer. (active)

Our cocktails are being made.

Eis Cocktailer gi gemaacht. (passive)

Tense and 2 Verbs

The passive **ginn** is always in the same tense as the main verb in the active sentence. If we have the present tense in an active sentence, **ginn** is also used in the present tense. If we have the past tense in an active sentence, **ginn** is also used in the past tense. If there is another verb before the main verb in the active sentence, then the same verb is also before **ginn**:

For example:

I eat cake.

Ech iesse Kuch. (active)

Cake is eaten.

Kuch gëtt giess. (passive)

I must eat this cake.

Ech muss dëse Kuch iessen. (active)

This cake must be eaten.

Dëse Kuch muss giess ginn. (passive)

I have eaten the pizzas.

Ech hunn d'Pizzae giess. (active)

The pizzas have been eaten.

D'Pizzae si giess ginn. (passive)

'People'

The passive can also be used to express an action done by an unknown number of people. In these sentences, we start with **et gëtt**. In English, this construction uses the word 'people':

For example:

People are dancing the whole night.

D'Leit danzen déi ganz Nuecht. (active)

Et gëtt déi ganz Nuecht gedanzt. (passive)

People are drinking a lot.

D'Leit drénke vill. (active)

Et gëtt vill gedronk. (passive)

Äifler Regel

Do not forget: Because of the Äifler Regel (Rule of Eifel), **ginn** can become **gi** if it is not followed by a vowel or the letter n, d, t, z, or h.