

how many, how much, a lot of

Shopping amounts and measures

6 Exercises • Duration: 20 min.

The café

English

Read & listen online



Shopping amounts and measures

Ask **How many?** with plural countable nouns: **How many apples?**

Ask **How much?** with an uncountable amount: **How much milk?** A price question also uses **how much**.

Use **a lot of** with either type: **a lot of apples, a lot of milk**.

Containers and measures take **of**: **a bottle of milk, a kilo of potatoes, half a kilo of cheese**.

A few goes with plural countable nouns; **a little** goes with uncountable amounts. Both mean a small positive amount: **a few apples, a little milk**.

Form	Example	Meaning
many	How many apples?	Ask the number of apples.
much	How much milk?	Ask the amount of milk.
of	A bottle of milk, please.	Name a bottle containing milk.
potatoes	A kilo of potatoes, please.	Order a kilo of potatoes.
few	I'd like a few apples.	Ask for a small number of apples.
little	I'd like a little water.	Ask for a small amount of water.

How many apples?

Ask the number of apples.

How much milk?

Ask the amount of milk.

A bottle of milk, please.

Name a bottle containing milk.

A kilo of potatoes, please.

Order a kilo of potatoes.

I'd like a few apples.

Ask for a small number of apples.

I'd like a little water.

Ask for a small amount of water.

GRAMMAR

G1) NOTICE THE PATTERNS

Underline the form described in this unit.

1 How many apples?

Meaning: Ask the number of apples.

2 How much milk?

Meaning: Ask the amount of milk.

3 A bottle of milk, please.

Meaning: Name a bottle containing milk.

4 A kilo of potatoes, please.

Meaning: Order a kilo of potatoes.

5 I'd like a few apples.

Meaning: Ask for a small number of apples.

6 I'd like a little water.

Meaning: Ask for a small amount of water.

G2) CHOOSE THE FORM

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 How _____ apples?

- ☐ A many
- ☐ B much
- ☐ C little

Meaning: Ask the number of apples.

2 How _____ milk?

- ☐ A many
- ☐ B much
- ☐ C few

Meaning: Ask the amount of milk.

3 A bottle _____ milk, please.

- ☐ A on
- ☐ B of
- ☐ C at

Meaning: Name a bottle containing milk.

4 A kilo of _____, please.

- ☐ A potatoes
- ☐ B potatoe
- ☐ C potato

Meaning: Order a kilo of potatoes.

5 I'd like a _____ apples.

- ☐ A few
- ☐ B little
- ☐ C much

Meaning: Ask for a small number of apples.

6 I'd like a _____ water.

- ☐ A few
- ☐ B little
- ☐ C many

Meaning: Ask for a small amount of water.

G3) COMPLETE A SHORT MESSAGE

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

many much

How _____ apples?

Meaning: Ask the number of apples.

much many

How _____ milk?

Meaning: Ask the amount of milk.

of at

A bottle _____ milk, please.

Meaning: Name a bottle containing milk.

potatoes potato

A kilo of _____, please.

Meaning: Order a kilo of potatoes.

few little

I'd like a _____ apples.

Meaning: Ask for a small number of apples.

little few

I'd like a _____ water.

Meaning: Ask for a small amount of water.

G4) BUILD USEFUL SENTENCES

Put the words in order.

- 1 many apples? How
-

Meaning: Ask the number of apples.

- 2 How milk? much
-

Meaning: Ask the amount of milk.

- 3 bottle please. of A milk,
-

Meaning: Name a bottle containing milk.

- 4 of kilo please. A potatoes,
-

Meaning: Order a kilo of potatoes.

- 5 I'd like a apples. few

Meaning: Ask for a small number of apples.

- 6 I'd like little water. a

Meaning: Ask for a small amount of water.

G5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

Choose the right words for the situation.

1 Ask the number of apples. You say:

- ☐ A How much apples?
- ☐ B How many apples?

2 Ask the amount of milk. You say:

- ☐ A How much milk?
- ☐ B How many milk?

3 Name a bottle containing milk. You say:

- ☐ A A bottle at milk, please.
- ☐ B A bottle of milk, please.

4 Order a kilo of potatoes. You say:

- ☐ A A kilo of potatoes, please.
- ☐ B A kilo of potato, please.

G6) CONNECT MESSAGES AND MEANINGS

Match the pairs.

- ☐ 1 How much milk? ☐ A Ask the number of apples.
- ☐ 2 How many apples? ☐ B Ask the amount of milk.
- ☐ 3 I'd like a little water. ☐ C Ask for a small number of apples.
- ☐ 4 I'd like a few apples. ☐ D Ask for a small amount of water.
- ☐ 5 A kilo of potatoes, please. ☐ E Name a bottle containing milk.

- ⑥ A bottle of milk, please.
- ⑦ Order a kilo of potatoes.