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The words 'other' and 'another' are difference words. They refer to something different, remaining or additional. They can be used as determiners or pronouns in a sentence.

As determiners, they come before a [noun](#), but as pronouns they can be used independently.

Compare:

- What **other** colors do you have? - Thank you. I'll take **the other**.

Other, the other, another as determiners

Other

'Other' means *extra, additional; alternative or different types*. We can use 'other' with both countable and uncountable nouns in affirmative, negative, and interrogative sentences.

When we use 'other' before a *singular countable* noun, we have to use another determiner before it.

- Do you have these shoes in **other** sizes?
- We received **other** information from a different agent.
- I don't want **other** people to see me here.

- Can you hand me my **other** shoe, please?
- I like **the other** shirt better.

The other

We use *'the other'* before countable and uncountable nouns.

— When we use *'the other'* before a singular noun, it refers to *the second of two things* or *the opposite in a set of two*.

- *This hammock is in the shade; I'd like to sit in **the other** hammock because it's in the sun.*
- *I have my suitcase. Do you have **the other** suitcase?*
- *Did John send you **the other** information?*

— When we use *'the other'* with a plural noun, it refers to *the remaining people or things in a group or set*.

- *I can't find **the other** three forks. I only have five.*
- *Let's join **the other** parents in the hot tub while the kids play in the pool.*

Another

'Another' is just the indefinite article *an* + *other*, and it means *one more* or *additional*, *extra*, or *an alternative* or *different*.

We normally use *'another'* with *singular countable* nouns in affirmative, interrogative, and negative statements.

- *Would you like **another** cup of coffee?*
- *Let's just go to **another** restaurant.*
- *I hope that's not **another** solicitor knocking on the door.*

We can use *'another'* with a plural noun or pronoun when a number or quantifier precedes the plural noun.

- *We don't have room for **another** 20 people.*
- *How do you feel about staying here for **another** few days?*

Here's a summary with the meaning and examples:



via <https://plus.google.com/+WoodwardEnglish/posts/AdF9L3kikfM>

Others, the others, the other, another as pronouns

Others

We use 'others' as a pronoun to replace *other ones* or a plural noun when the noun is *known* or *obvious*. We cannot use 'other' as a pronoun.

- *All of these glasses are dirty. Do you have **others**?* ('others' refers to 'glasses')
- *Some people agree while **others** are neutral.* ('others' refers to 'other people')

The others

'The others' refers to *(the) other group* or *(the) other people*. It may also refer to animals.

- *What are **the others** up to right now?*
- *I'm going to see what **the others** have to say about this.*

The other

We can use 'the other' as a pronoun. In this case, it usually *refers back* to something that was previously mentioned, or to another or the opposite in a set or group.

- *I have a child in one hand and a puppy in **the other**.* ('the other' refers to 'hand').
- *I'll take care of this cat, and you can take care of **the other**.*

Another

We can use 'another' as a pronoun when the noun is *known* or *obvious*. We usually use 'another' in affirmative and interrogative statements.

- *I already had a croissant, but I think I'll have **another**.* ('another' refers to 'croissant')
- *You're finished your beer; would you like **another**?* ('another' refers to 'beer')

Watch this video from EngVid explaining how to use 'other' and 'another':

Read more on the topic:

[Pronouns and Determiners: Quantifiers](#)

[Possession: Determiners, Pronouns, Apostrophe 's](#)

[Pronouns and Determiners: Each, Every, Either, Neither, Both, Half, All](#)