

Buy a small quantity

HSK 1

Use the examples with their context and limits. Recall a sentence before reading the model. Original teaching additions accompany examples adapted from Chinese Grammar Wiki (AllSet Learning, CC BY-NC-SA); see the course reference provenance. Ask the price and buy a stated number of things.

Build the meaning

Count ordinary objects with number + measure word + noun: 两个苹果, two apples. 两 is useful before 个; 二 is used in numbers such as 二十. 多少钱 asks a price. 我要 says what you want in this buying situation; it is not the same as 我有, I have.

Useful words in context

- 苹果 píngguǒ – apple. 我要两个苹果。
- 个 ge – general measure word. 三个苹果。
- 多少钱 duōshao qián – how much money. 多少钱?
- 块 kuài – yuan, spoken. 十块钱。
- 要 yào – want, in this request. 我要水。

Read for meaning

林安要两个苹果和一杯水。两个苹果六块钱，一杯水三块钱。一共九块钱。
Lin An wants two apples and one cup of water. The apples cost six yuan and the water three: nine yuan altogether.

Listen to a different passage

Ask a partner to read this with the script closed. Use the online practice for browser playback.
我要三个苹果，不要水。三个苹果九块钱。
I want three apples, not water. Three apples cost nine yuan.

Speak and write

Be a customer: ask a price, then order three apples. Be the seller and give a price. Write a short order for two apples and water. State a fictional total price.
One speaking model: A: 三个苹果多少钱? B: 九块钱。A: 我要三个苹果。
One writing model: 我要两个苹果和一杯水。一共十块钱。

- Use a number and measure word with 苹果.
- Include both requested items.
- Label the price as a total.

Check the distinction: The count is 两个, not 二个 in this ordinary phrase. Use a measure word instead of directly copying English two apples.
Learn step by step · Practise and review.