

G4 Conditional clauses

1. Bildung

Type 1 'realistic':

if-clause: simple present	main clause: will-future
If it starts to rain later,	we will get wet.

Type 2 'theoretical'

if-clause: simple past	main clause: conditional
If I had more time,	I would go for a walk.

Type 3 'no longer possible'

if-clause: past perfect	main clause: conditional perfect
If he had left sooner,	he would have caught the bus.

2. Verwendung

- In conditional sentences the if-clause expresses a **condition** and the **main clause** expresses the **consequence**.
- Sometimes there are mixed forms:
 - If I **had saved** up enough money, I **would buy** that car today.
 - If I **had** a car, I **would have visited** you.
- Do not use **will** or **would** in if-clauses unless they are modal auxiliaries!!