



Speaking From the Heart

Location and Direction

PART 1: LOCATION

In English, when talking about location and direction, there are word combinations that naturally go together. *Up here, down there, come in, go out.* This is also true in Pennsylvania Dutch. Let's talk about location first.

Location

When talking about location, you need at least one of 2 words in your sentence: **do** (*here*) and **datt** (*there*). These are from the speaker's point of view.



do (here)

Something *close* to the speaker



datt (there)

Something *away* from speaker

Simple sentences

In simple sentences, you may only need to use *here* and *there*.

|| EN: I am **here**.

|| PG: Ich binn **do**.

|| EN: You are **there**.

|| PG: Du bisht **datt**.

|| EN: The cats are **here**.

|| PG: Di katzs sinn **do**.

|| EN: The cats are **there**.

|| PG: Di katzs sinn **datt**.

Complex sentences

But many times, you'll need to **explain more about where something is**. In those cases, you need a **preposition**. Prepositions go with *do* (*here*) and *datt* (*there*) and give more details.

Here are some prepositions that work along with *do* and *datt*:

- **in** (in)
- **aus** (out)
- **ovva/uff** (above/up/on)
- **unna** (down/under)
- **ivvah** (over)

EN: I am in <i>here</i> . PG: Ich binn <i>do</i> hinn .	EN: You are out <i>there</i> . PG: Du bisht <i>datt</i> draus .
EN: The cats are down <i>here</i> . PG: Di katza sinn <i>do</i> hunna .	EN: The cats are up <i>there</i> . PG: Di katza sinn <i>datt</i> drovva .

💡 Note: *Do* and *datt* go **before** the prepositions in the sentence.

You'll notice the prepositions listed above become different words. When used with a location word like *here* and *there*, they get a prefix added to the front.

For example:

- Prepositions that go with **do** (*here*) get an **h** added to the front
 - **h** + **in** = hinn
 - **h** + **unna** = hunna
- Prepositions that go with **datt** (*there*) get **dr** added to the front
 - **dr** + **aus** = draus
 - **dr** + **ovva** = drovva

For the chart explaining how it all works, **see page 159** in the *Language Class book* or the [Location and Direction \(PDF\)](#) on Deitshbooks.com.