

GERMAN SYNTAX

Exploring the major syntactic phenomena of German, this book provides a state-of-the-art account of German syntax, as well as an outline of the key aspects of Chomsky's Minimalist Program. It is one of the first comprehensive studies of the entire syntactic component of a natural language within the Minimalist Program, covering core issues including clause structure, binding, case, agreement, control, and movement. It introduces a phase-based theory of syntax that establishes Remove, an operation that removes syntactic structure, as a mirror image of Merge, which builds syntactic structure. This unified approach resolves many cases of conflicting structure assignments in syntax, as they occur with passivization, restructuring, long-distance passivization, complex prefields, bridge verbs, applicatives, null objects, pseudo-noun incorporation, nominal concord, and ellipsis. It will pave the way for similar research into other languages and is essential reading for anyone interested in the syntax of German, syntactic theory, or the Minimalist Program.

GEREON MÜLLER is Professor of General Linguistics at Leipzig University. His recent publications include *Constraints on Displacement* (2011), *Syntactic Buffers* (2014), and *Inflectional Morphology in Harmonic Serialism* (2020).

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GERMAN SYNTAX

A STRUCTURE REMOVAL APPROACH

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This book is dedicated to the memory of Gisbert Fanselow.

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