

# Singular Noun and Plural Noun

Singular nouns represent only one thing, but plural nouns represent more than one. You talk about one cat, but many cats.

## **These are some rules:**

1. To make regular nouns plural, add **s** to the end.

For example,

- (a) dog – dogs
- (b) house – houses

2. **If** the singular noun ends in **s, ss, sh, ch, x, or z**, add **es** to the end to make it plural.

For example,

- (a) truss – trusses
- (b) bus – buses
- (c) marsh – marshes
- (d) lunch – lunches
- (e) tax – taxes
- (f) blitz – blitzes

3. In some cases, singular nouns ending in **s** or **z**, require that you double the **s** or **z** prior to making them into plural form. For example,

- (a) fez – fezzes
- (b) gas – gasses (note that gases is also an acceptable, and more commonly used, spelling of this plural noun)

4. If the noun ends with **f** or **fe**, the **f** is often changed to **ve** before adding the **s** to form the plural version. For example,

- (a) wife – wives
- (b) wolf – wolves

## **Some exceptions:**

roof – roofs

belief – beliefs

chef – chefs

chief – chiefs

5. If a singular noun ends in **y** and the letter before the **y** is a consonant, change the ending to **ies** to make the noun plural. For example,

- (a) city – cities
- (b) puppy – puppies

6. If the singular noun ends in **y** and the letter before the **y** is a vowel, simply add an **s** to make it plural. For example,

- (a) ray – rays
- (b) boy – boys

7. If the singular noun ends in **o**, add **es** to make it plural.

- (a) potato – potatoes
- (b) tomato – tomatoes

**Exceptions:**

photo – photos  
piano – pianos  
halo – halos

8. If the singular noun ends in “**us**”, the plural ending is frequently “**I**”. For example,

- (a) cactus – cacti
- (b) focus – foci

9. If the singular noun ends in “**is**”, the plural ending is **es**. For example,

- (a) analysis – analyses
- (b) ellipsis – ellipses

10. If the singular noun ends in “**on**”, the plural ending is “**a**”.

- (a) phenomenon – phenomena
- (b) criterion – criteria

11. Some nouns don’t change at all when they’re pluralized. For example,

- (a) sheep – sheep
- (b) series – series
- (c) species – species
- (d) deer –deer

**Some irregular nouns take different form. For example,**

- (a) child – children
- (b) goose – geese
- (c) man – men
- (d) woman – women
- (e) tooth – teeth
- (f) foot – feet
- (g) mouse – mice
- (h) person – people