

Lesson 30

Singular and Plural Nouns

The following chart shows how to change **singular nouns** into **plural nouns**.

Noun	Plural Form	Examples
Most nouns	Add -s	ship, ships nose, noses
Nouns ending in a consonant and -y	Change the -y to -i, and add -es	sky, skies navy, navies
Nouns ending in -o	Add -es or -s	hero, heroes solo, solos
Most nouns ending in -f or -fe	Change the -f or -fe to -ves	half, halves
Most nouns ending in -ch, -sh, -s, or -x	Add -es	bench, benches bush, bushes loss, losses tax, taxes
Many two-word or three-word compound nouns	Add -s to the principle word	son-in-law, sons-in-law
Nouns with the same form in the singular and plural	No change	sheep
Nouns that are exceptions to the rules		woman, women

A. Fill in the blank with the plural form of the word in parentheses.

- (knife) These are dull _____.
- (dish) That restaurant on Queen Street serves tasty _____.
- (country) What _____ are in Central America?
- (deer) There are many _____ in the park.
- (piano) These _____ came from Germany.
- (fly) How many _____ did you kill?
- (hose) There are two _____ in the garage.
- (fax) Did you send the _____ to the office?
- (wrench) The store carries many types of _____.
- (tomato) Do you like fried _____?
- (calf) Please help feed the _____.
- (mother-in-law) Both _____ came to their New Year's brunch.
- (piece) How many _____ of cake did you eat?
- (family) Several _____ gathered for a barbecue.
- (branch) The _____ of the tree were damaged by the storm.
- (video) The store on the corner sells CDs and _____.

B. Write the correct plural form for each singular noun. Note that some nouns are exceptions to the rules.

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. piglet _____ | 16. church _____ |
| 2. hobo _____ | 17. elf _____ |
| 3. duck _____ | 18. desk _____ |
| 4. chef _____ | 19. man _____ |
| 5. lunch _____ | 20. sheep _____ |
| 6. collector _____ | 21. wife _____ |
| 7. tragedy _____ | 22. pony _____ |
| 8. echo _____ | 23. banjo _____ |
| 9. niece _____ | 24. tree _____ |
| 10. floor _____ | 25. sight _____ |
| 11. hand _____ | 26. watch _____ |
| 12. county _____ | 27. city _____ |
| 13. mouse _____ | 28. spoonful _____ |
| 14. carriage _____ | 29. nation _____ |
| 15. wish _____ | 30. dome _____ |

C. Rewrite the sentences, changing each underlined singular noun to a plural noun.

1. The hero saved the child from the burning building. _____
2. Dan took five photo of the reindeer. _____
3. They travelled to several country during their vacation. _____
4. Put the fish you catch into the wooden box. _____
5. Tell us the story of the wolf who roamed the woods. _____
6. Her son-in-law and brother attended the ceremony. _____
7. The man ate the cherry and the peach. _____
8. The book fell from the shelf. _____
9. The builder made the house from brick. _____
10. What legend did the elder tell? _____

Singular and Plural Nouns (continued)

C. Write the plural of each of the following nouns. Use a dictionary to check your answers.

Set 1

1. hero _____
2. wolf _____
3. thief _____
4. rodeo _____
5. scissors _____
6. mosquito _____
7. apology _____
8. crisis _____
9. motto _____
10. index _____

Set 2

1. ally _____
2. alley _____
3. parenthesis _____
4. oasis _____
5. wax _____
6. ostrich _____
7. zero _____
8. grandchild _____
9. chef _____
10. half _____

D. Write the plural form of each of these compound nouns. Check your answers with a dictionary.

1. pinch hitter _____
2. lieutenant-governor _____
3. twelve-year-old _____
4. son-in-law _____
5. chief justice of the supreme court _____
6. toothbrush _____
7. runner-up _____
8. time-out _____
9. disc jockey _____
10. editor-in-chief _____