

Nouns

⇒ Singular Nouns

Nouns can be singular or plural. When you are talking about one person, animal, place, or thing, use a singular noun.



a ship



an owl



a woman



a train



a flower

These are also singular nouns

an airplane

a letter

a bicycle

a boy

a photographer

a bus

a refrigerator

⇒ Use **a** or **an** before singular nouns. Use **an** before words beginning with **vowels** (a, e, i, o, u). For example, say:

an axe

an igloo

an egg

an orange

an umbrella

an envelope

an uncle

an ice cream

⇒ But some words don't follow this rule. For example, use **a** (not **an**) before these words that begin with **u**:



a uniform



a university

⇒ Use **a** before words beginning with the other letters of the alphabet, called **consonants**. For example, say:



a basket



a rainbow



a bowl



a car

⇒ But some words don't follow this rule. For example, use **an** (not **a**) before these words that begin with **h**:

○ **an** heir

○ **an** honor

○ **an** hour

⇒ Plural Nouns

When you are talking about two or more people, animals, places, or things, use plural nouns. Most nouns are made plural by adding **-s** at the end.



Star



Stars



Bat



Bats



Mug



Mugs

Singular	Plural
Bird	Birds
Broom	Brooms
Camel	Camels
Desk	Desks
Doll	Dolls
Egg	Eggs

⇒ Some plural nouns end in **-ies**.

- Butterfly → Butterflies
- Canary → Canaries
- Lily → Lilies
- Candy → Candies

⇒ Some plural nouns end in **-es**.

- Bus → Buses
- Glass → Glasses
- Brush → Brushes
- Watch → Watches
- Fox → Foxes

Singular	Plural
Bench	Benches
Branch	Branches
Box	Boxes
Bush	Bushes
Church	Churches
Dish	Dishes
Dress	Dresses
Sandwich	Sandwiches
Witch	Witches

⇒ What if there is a vowel before the **y**? In that case, add **-s** to form the plural.



Mug



Mugs



Turkey



Turkeys

Singular	Plural
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Chimney	Chimneys
Cowboy	Cowboys
Day	Days
Donkey	Donkeys
Jersey	Jerseys
Kidney	Kidneys
Toy	Toys
Trolley	Trolleys
Valley	Valleys

⇒ If a noun ends in **-f**, you often change **f** to **v**, and add **-es**.

Singular	Plural
Calf	Calves
Elf	Elves
Half	Halves
Leaf	Leaves
Loaf	Loaves
Shelf	Shelves
Thief	Thieves

⇒ Often nouns that end in **-f**, just need **-s** to form the plural.

Singular	Plural
Chef	Chefs
Handkerchief	Handkerchiefs
Chief	Chiefs
Roof	Roofs
Cliff	Cliffs
Sheriff	Sheriffs

⇒ For some words that end in **-f** the plural can be spelled in two different ways.

Singular	Plural
Dwarf	Dwarfs or Dwarves
Hoof	Hoofs or Hooves
Scarf	Scarfs or Scarves

⇒ If a noun ends in **-o**, you just add **-s** to form the plural.



a rhino



Rhinos



a kangaroo



Kangaroos

Singular	Plural
a hippo	Hippos
a video	Videos
a zoo	Zoos

⇒ But with some nouns that end in **-o**, you add **-es** to form the plural.



a flamingo



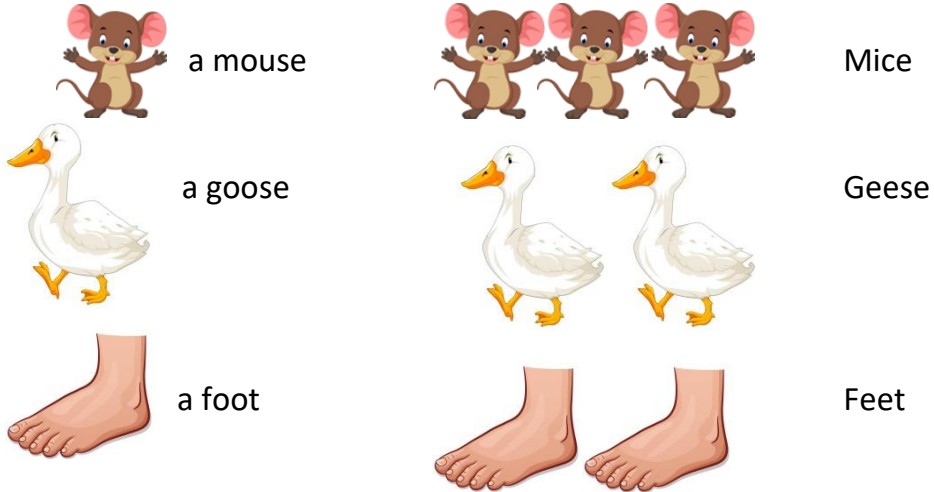
Flamingoes

Singular	Plural
a tomato	Tomatoes
a potato	Potatoes
a hero	Heroes

⇒ With some nouns that end in **-o**, you can add either **-s** or **-es** to form the plural.

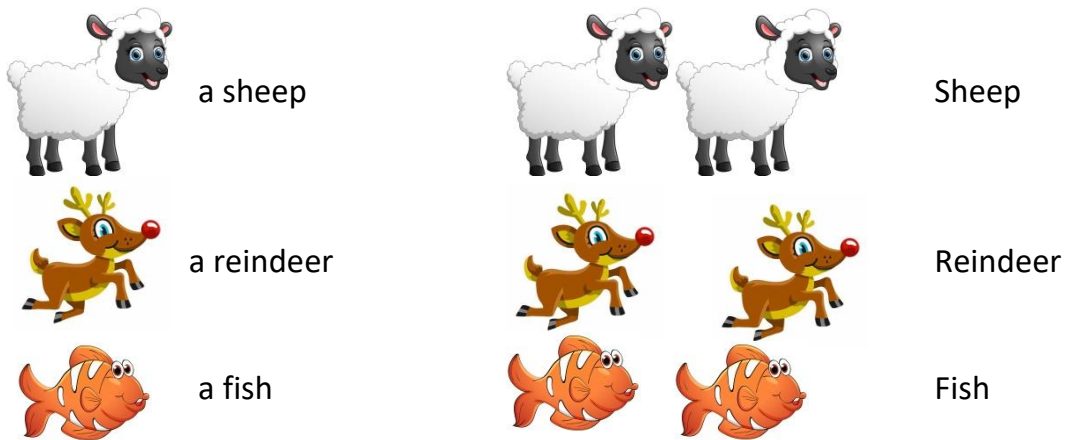
Singular	Plural	Plural
a mango	mangoes	mangos
a mosquito	mosquitoes	mosquitos

⇒ Some plural nouns don't follow the **-s** rule. They don't end in **-s**, **-es**, **-ies** or **-ves**. Instead, the word changes form.



Singular	Plural
child	children
man	men
ox	oxen
tooth	teeth

⇒ Some plural nouns are the same as the singular noun.



Singular	Plural
bison	bison
deer	deer

⇒ Some nouns are always plural.

1. binoculars
2. goggles
3. pliers
4. jeans
5. spectacles