



SINGULAR AND PLURALS

Rule #1

Nouns ending in s, z, x, sh, and ch form the plural by adding -ES.

Examples:

buzz, buzzes

box, boxes

dish, dishes

church, churches

Rule #2

Nouns ending in y preceded by a consonant is formed into a plural by changing y to -IES.

Examples:

lady, ladies

city, cities

army, armies

gravy, gravies

Rule #3

Nouns ending in y preceded by a vowel form their plurals by adding S.

Example:

boy, boys

day, days

play, plays

relay, relays



Rule #4

Most nouns ending in o preceded by a consonant is formed into a plural by adding -ES.

Examples:

hero; heroes

grotto, grottoes

cargo, cargoes

volcano, volcanoes

Rule #5

Some nouns ending in f or fe are made plural by changing f or fe to -VES.

Examples:

wife, wives

life, lives

knife, knives



IRREGULAR SINGULAR AND PLURAL WORDS

Exceptions: The following may form their plurals by adding s.

chief, chiefs	fife, fifes
mischief, mischiefs	hoof, hoofs
roof, roofs	grief, griefs
kerchief, kerchiefs	

Irregular Plurals

man, men	foot, feet
mouse, mice	woman, women
tooth, teeth	louse, lice
child, children	ox, oxen
goose, geese	

The following nouns have no singular:

Scissors	cattle
oats	shears
tongs	measles
dregs	mumps
trousers	victuals
pinchers	tweezers
bellows	vespers
snuffers	



Some nouns are always singular. Some of these nouns may be used in the plural when different kinds are meant as sugars, coffees, cottons

gold
wheat
molasses
sugar

silver
corn
copper
cotton

news
mathematics

gallows
ethics