

# Singular and Plural Nouns (I)

A **singular noun** names one person, place, thing, or idea. A **plural noun** names more than one person, place, thing, or idea.

Here are seven rules for forming plural nouns.

1. **To form the plural of most nouns, just add -s.**

cups desks hands fossils

2. **When the singular ends in *s*, *sh*, *ch*, *x*, or *z*, add -es.**

addresses dishes churches foxes buzzes

3. **When the singular ends in *o*, add -s.**

stereos radios solos pianos

EXCEPTIONS: For the following nouns ending in *o*, add -es:

echoes heroes potatoes tomatoes

4. **When the singular noun ends in *y*, with a consonant before it, change the *y* to *i* and add -es.**

butterfly-butterflies army-armies diary-diaries

5. **For most nouns ending in *f* or *fe*, add -s. For some nouns ending in *f* or *fe*, however, change the *f* to *v* and add -es.**

chief-chiefs safe-safes calf-calves shelf-shelves

6. **Some nouns are the same for both singular and plural.**

deer sheep trout moose bass

7. **Some nouns form their plurals in special ways.**

child-children man-men mouse-mice  
tooth-teeth goose-geese foot-feet

**Forming Plurals** Write the plural for each of the following nouns.

- |                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. tooth _____  | 8. volcano _____  |
| 2. trout _____  | 9. match _____    |
| 3. box _____    | 10. country _____ |
| 4. monkey _____ | 11. drum _____    |
| 5. banjo _____  | 12. auto _____    |
| 6. leaf _____   | 13. woman _____   |
| 7. thief _____  | 14. class _____   |

## Singular and Plural Nouns (II)

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Understanding  
Nouns

Always check a dictionary when you are unsure about how to form the plural of a word.

**Correcting Plural Nouns** Rewrite each sentence, correcting all errors in the spelling of plural nouns. (16 errors)

1. The toy submarine was armed with miniature torpedos.

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2. In many fairy tales, wolfs are evil creatures.

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3. Crocodiles have powerful jaws and sharp tooths.

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4. Famous athletes have appeared in music videoes.

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5. During the 1800s, Native American chieives signed treatys with the U.S.

government. \_\_\_\_\_

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6. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday and Washington's Birthday are legal

holidayes. \_\_\_\_\_

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7. The disc jockies hosted a benefit for homeless childs.

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8. Mother kangeroos carry their young in pouchs.

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9. Mooses are the largest members of the deer family.

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10. Tyrannosaurus rex was one of the most savage dinosaures.

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