

### Rules for Forming Plural Nouns

To form the plural of nouns, follow the rules below.

1. Add *s* to most nouns.  
girl/girls      bicycle/bicycles      printer/printers
2. Add *es* to nouns ending in *s*, *x*, *z*, *ch*, or *sh*.  
class/classes      ax/axes      buzz/buzzes      church/churches      wish/wishes
3. For nouns ending in *y* preceded by a consonant, change *y* to *i* and add *es*.  
fly/flies      party/parties      daisy/daisies
4. For nouns ending in *y* preceded by a vowel, add *s*.  
monkey/monkeys      valley/valleys
5. For nouns ending in *o* preceded by a consonant, add *es*.  
hero/heroes      potato/potatoes
6. For nouns ending in *o* preceded by a vowel, add *s*.  
Oreo/Oreos      radio/radios      patio/patios
7. For musical terms ending in *o*, add *s*.  
solo/solos      alto/altos      piano/pianos
8. For nouns ending in *f* or *fe*, usually change the *f* or *fe* to *ves*.  
leaf/leaves      shelf/shelves      wolf/wolves  
Exceptions: chief/chiefs      chef/chefs      safe/safes
9. Add *s* to the end of singular nouns ending in *ful*.  
cupful/cupfuls      spoonful/spoonfuls
10. Change the spelling of some words.  
cactus/cacti      mouse/mice      goose/geese      woman/women
11. Leave some nouns as they are.  
sheep/sheep      deer/deer      fish/fish      moose/moose
12. Add *s* to the most important noun in a hyphenated word.  
editor-in-chief/editors-in-chief      brother-in-law/brothers-in-law
13. Add *s* to proper nouns which do not end in *s*. Add *es* to proper nouns which do end in *s*.  
Mr. and Mrs. Walker/the Walkers      Mr. and Mrs. Ross/the Rosses