

### 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

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