

Forming plurals in English

1. Singular +s

singular	plural
a car	two cars <u>s</u>
a pen	two pens
a computer	two computer <u>s</u>
a bird	two birds

2. Singular +es

singular	plural
a fax	two fax <u>es</u>
a sandwich	two sandwich <u>es</u>
a kiss	two kiss <u>es</u>
a garage	two garage <u>s</u>

3. Add +s after a vowel + y

singular	plural
a day	two days
a boy	two boy <u>s</u>

4. Replace y after a consonant with -ies

singular	plural
a city	two cit <u>ies</u>
a lady	two lad <u>ies</u>

5. Nouns ending in -o

add -s		add -es	
singular	plural	singular	plural
a piano	two pianos	a tomato	two tomato <u>es</u>
a photo	two photo <u>s</u>	a hero	two hero <u>es</u>
a disco	two disc <u>o</u> s	a potato	two potato <u>es</u>

6. Nouns ending in -f or -fe

add -s		replace with -ves	
singular	plural	singular	plural
a roof	two roof <u>s</u>	a thief	two thief <u>es</u>
a cliff	two cliff <u>s</u>	a wife	two wife <u>es</u>
a sheriff	two sheriff <u>s</u>	a shelf	two shelf <u>es</u>

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There are many irregular plurals

singular	plural
a mouse	two mice
a man	two men
a woman	two women
a tooth	two teeth
a foot	two feet
a sheep	two sheep
a fish	two fish
a child	two children
a person	two people
a die	two dice
a radius	two radii

Some words are only plural (*things that come in pairs*)

plural		
glasses (face)	pants	trousers
scissors	panties	stockings

Some words are only singular (*things that can not be counted*)

singular		
information	beauty	goodness
chemistry	impressionism	mathematics
copper	gold	electronics

Task: Fill in the following table

singular	plural	singular	plural
bicycle	<i>bicycles</i>		dogs
monitor			lives
watch			meetings
volcano			pizzas
cherry			leaves
monkey			keys
knife			spaghetti