# Plural nouns with 's', 'es', and 'ies'

## Construction

**The plural ending of a noun is usually s but it is sometimes es, ies, or irregular.**

**Singular noun = 1 telephone** 

**Plural noun = 2 telephones.**  

## Irregular endings

| | Singular | Plural | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|
| en ending | child<br>man<br>woman | children<br>men<br>women | |
| o | tomato<br>potato<br>volcano | tomatoes<br>potatoes<br>volcanoes | Words of foreign origin, including Italian words, often take 's' not 'es':<br><br>photos<br>zeros<br>pianos<br>porticos<br>scenarios |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Others** | **person**<br>**mouse**<br>**penny [£]**<br>**penny [$]** | **people**<br>**mice**<br>**pence/pennies [£]**<br>**pennies [$]** | **In the UK, 'pence' = an amount of money and 'pennies' = individual coins.**<br><br>**The plural of a computer mouse can be 'mouses' or 'mice'.** |

# Pronunciation

**It is important to pronounce the s or es.**

| /s/ sound after soft consonants<br><br>[no extra syllable] | /z/ sound after hard consonants and vowel sounds<br><br>[no extra syllable] | /ɪz/ sound after /s/, /ʃ/, /tʃ/, z, /ks/ and /dʒ/<br><br>[This adds an extra syllable.] | Change y to i and add es when noun ends in a consonant and y<br><br>[no extra syllable] |
|---|---|---|---|
| reports shops<br>t-shirts trips<br>streets books<br>students weeks | managers bags<br>years dogs<br>holidays balls<br>boys pens<br>friends roads | offices [sɪz]<br>wishes [ʃɪz]<br>watches [tʃɪz]<br>houses [zɪz]<br>pages [dʒɪz]<br>faxes [ksɪz] | lady ladyi + es = ladies<br>story stories<br>city cities<br>baby babies<br>fly flies |

# Examples

**One book** 

**Ten books** 

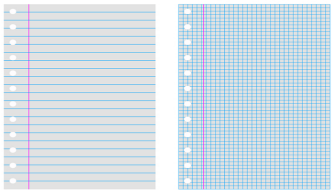
**One chair** 

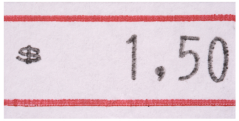
**Five chairs** 

**One box** 

**Two boxes** 

**One page** 

**Two pages** 

**One price** 


**Three prices** 


**One puppy** 

**Two puppies** 

**One strawberry** 

**Nine strawberries** 

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