Each, every

Introduction

This train stops at every station on the route.

Definition

Each and **every** are quantifiers which have similar meanings but are not always used in the same way.

Construction

	Each	Every
+ singular noun	**Each** book is different.	**Every** book is different.
+ plural noun	❌	❌
without a noun	**Each** is different.	❌
with 'one'	**Each** one is different.	**Every** one is different.
with 'of'	**Each** of them is different.	❌
with 'one' and 'of'	❌	**Every** one of them is different.

Each and **every** take a singular verb, even if there is more than one noun:

Every man and woman <u>has</u> an opportunity to progress in our company.

With '**each** of', we can use a singular or a plural verb but the singular is better in formal written English:

Each of the books <u>is/are</u> different.

Uses

	Use	Examples
Each	**To talk about a group of things or people when we consider them separately - one at a time**	**We greeted each visitor as they arrived.**
	To refer to two things or people	**In last night's rugby match, each team played well.**
	To talk about prices	**These apples are 40p each.**
	To talk about how things are divided between members of a group	**There are six chocolates and three people so they can have two each.**
	'each other'	**He's looking at her and she's looking at him. = They're looking at each other.** **[see Reflexive and reciprocal pronouns]**
Every	**To talk about a group of things or people when we consider them as a whole. The meaning is similar to all**	**Every visitor to our company receives a warm welcome.**
	To talk about frequency	**The buses leave every fifteen minutes.** **She visits her parents every Christmas.**

Note that for smaller numbers, **each** is more common. **Every** is more common for bigger numbers and has a similar meaning to all:

Each member of my team works hard.
Every employee in this company works hard.