

# Much, many and a lot of/lots of

## Introduction



I don't have **much** money!

## Definition

**Much, many** and **a lot of/lots of** are quantifiers which we use with **uncountable nouns** and plural **countable nouns**.

## Construction

	Plural countable nouns	Uncountable nouns
<b>Much</b> <u>Negative and interrogative</u>	✘	I don't have <b>much</b> money.  Do you have <b>much</b> money?
<b>Many</b> <u>Negative and interrogative</u>	I don't have <b>many</b> books.  Do you have <b>many</b> books?	✘
<b>A lot of/lots of</b> <u>Affirmative, negative and interrogative</u>	I have <b>a lot of</b> books.  I don't have <b>a lot of</b> books.  Do you have <b>a lot of</b> books?	I have <b>a lot of</b> money.  I don't have <b>a lot of</b> money.  Do you have <b>a lot of</b> money?

## Uses

We use **much**, **many** and **a lot/lots of** to talk about (often large) quantities and amounts.

In conversation it is rare to use **much** and **many** in affirmative sentences. They are used in formal, written English but **a lot of/lots of** is preferred for both **countable** and **uncountable nouns** in conversation and informal writing. For example:

Does he have **much** money?  
He doesn't have **much** money.  
He has **a lot of** money.

Does he have **many** friends?  
He doesn't have **many** friends.  
He has **a lot of** friends.

However, **much** and **many** are a little more acceptable in conversation at the beginning of a sentence:

**Much** of our food is exported.  
**Many** people drive too fast.

If you are not sure, use **a lot of** in formal and informal situations with countable and uncountable nouns for affirmative, negative and interrogative sentences.

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