

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