

Making Nouns Plural with s, es and ies

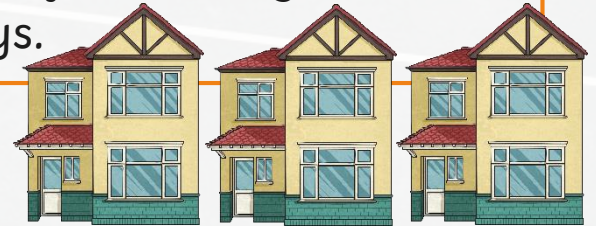


Singular and Plural

The word 'singular' means just one of something.
For example, a house or a boy.



The word 'plural' means more than one of something.
For example, houses or boys.



The word 'singular' is very similar so 'single'.
This can help us to remember the meanings of
singular and plural.



Singular and Plural

When we make a singular noun into a plural noun, the spelling at the end of the noun changes.

house → houses

boy → boys

For most nouns, s or es is added to the end of the noun, or a y is replaced with ies.

Deciding which plural spelling to use is the tricky part. The rest of this Powerpoint explains when to use the different spellings.



Adding 's'

To make most nouns plural, we simply add an 's' to the end of the word.



zebras



peas



footballers



logs

Adding 'es'

If the noun ends in ch, sh, s, ss, x, zz or z, most of the time we add 'es'



sandwiches



glasses



buses



boxes

Adding 's' or 'ies'

If the noun ends in a vowel (a, e, i, o or u) and 'y', most of the time we add 's'.

However, if the noun ends in a consonant and a 'y', most of the time we replace 'y' with 'ies'.



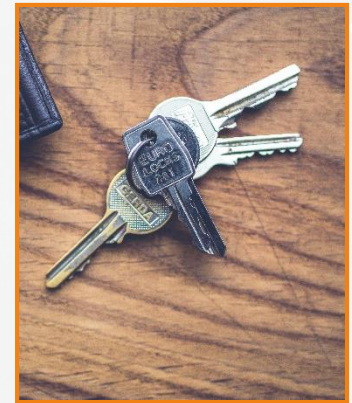
baby



babies



key



keys



Look out for...

The English language is complicated and there are lots of exceptions to these rules.

One exception to look out for is nouns that end in 'f' or 'fe'. These become 'ves' when they are made into plurals.



loaf



loaves



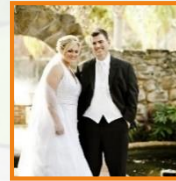
Singular to Plural



loaf



loaves



wife



wives



foot



feet



baby



babies



pear



pears



sheep



sheep



brush



brushes



apple



apples

