

Much and many are quantifiers that are used before a noun. They express that a quantity is large. Both words have the same meaning but must be used in different ways. Much is always used with uncountable nouns whilst many is used with plural, countable nouns.

Much and many are more commonly used in questions and in negative sentences, but they can be used in affirmative sentences too.

### EXAMPLES

There are **many** people in this room.  
There is **much** concern about her welfare.

There are different ways we can use these words, as seen in the table below.

	Countable, Plural Nouns	Uncountable Nouns
Question	How many?	How much?
Replace "very"	So many	So much
Unnecessary large quantity	Too many	Too much

### EXCEPTIONS

When there is an article (a, an, the), demonstrative (this, that, these, those), possessive adjective (my, your, his, her, its, our, their) or object pronoun (me, you, him, her, it, us, them) directly before the noun, then we must use much of and many of.

**How many of your shoes are clean?**  
**How much of this cake have you eaten?**

We can also express the size of something by using the demonstrative this/this plus much/many. To do this you must also use a hand gesture to show the size. For example, *I've only eaten **this much!***

### EXCEPTIONS

Remember that the expression "how much" also has a different meaning. When we want to ask the cost of something, we ask the question "how much?" It doesn't matter whether the noun is countable or uncountable, but the verb will most likely be "to be" or "to cost"

**How much does this cake cost?**