



Plurals

Plurals are used to say we have more than one of something. The traditional rule to make a noun plural in English is to add the letter S to the end of the word. *For example, one car → two cars, one house → two houses.*

But there are some exceptions to this rule!

- If the last letters in the word are CH, SH, S, X O or Z, then we add ES to the end of the noun instead (**watch** → **watches**).
- There is a special rule for words ending in O. If the final letters are consonant + O, then we add ES to the end of the word (**tomato** → **tomatoes**). If the final letters are vowel + O, then we add only S to the end of the word (**kangaroo** → **kangaroos**.)
- If the last letter in the word is F, then we replace this with a V, then add ES to the end of the noun instead (**leaf** → **leaves**).
- If the last two letters of the word are FE, then we replace this with VE, then add S to the end of the noun instead (**wife** → **wives**).
- If the last two letters of the word are consonant + Y, then we eliminate the Y, then add IES to the end of the noun instead (**baby** → **babies**). Note that if the final two letters are vowel + Y, this follows the traditional rule where you simply add S (**boy** → **boys**).