

1. To make regular nouns plural, add -s to the end.

cat – cats house – houses

2. If the singular noun ends in -s, -ss, -sh, -ch, -x, or -z, add -es to the end to make it plural.

truss – trusses bus – buses marsh – marshes
lunch – lunches tax – taxes blitz – blitzes

3. In some cases, singular nouns ending in -s or -z, require that you double the -s or -z prior to adding the -es for pluralization.

fez – fezzes gas – gasses

4. If the noun ends with -f or -fe, the f is often changed to -ve before adding the -s to form the plural version.

wife – wives wolf – wolves

Exceptions: roof – roofs belief – beliefs
 chef – chefs chief – chiefs

5. If a singular noun ends in -y and the letter before the -y is a consonant, change the ending to -ies to make the noun plural.

city – cities puppy – puppies

6. If the singular noun ends in -y and the letter before the -y is a vowel, simply add an -s to make it plural.

ray – rays boy – boys

7. If the singular noun ends in -o, add -es to make it plural.

potato – potatoes tomato – tomatoes

Exceptions: photo – photos piano – pianos halo – halos

With the unique word volcano, you can apply the standard pluralization for words that end in -o or not. It's your choice! Both of the following are correct: Volcanoes, volcanos

8. If the singular noun ends in -us, the plural ending is frequently -i.

cactus – cacti focus – foci

9. If the singular noun ends in -is, the plural ending is -es.

analysis – analyses ellipsis – ellipses

10. If the singular noun ends in -on, the plural ending is -a.

phenomenon – phenomena criterion – criteria

11. Some nouns don't change at all when they're pluralized.

sheep – sheep series – series species – species
deer – deer