

train(s) bus(es) (singular and plural)

A

The plural of a noun is usually **-s**:

singular (= one) → *plural* (= two or more)

a flower → some **flowers**

a train → two **trains**

one week → a few **weeks**

a nice place → some nice **places**

this student → these **students**



a flower



some **flowers**

Spelling (→ Appendix 5):

-s / -sh / -ch / -x → **-es** bus → buses dish → dishes

church → **churches** box → **boxes**

also potato → **potatoes** tomato → **tomatoes**

-y → **-ies** baby → **babies** dictionary → **ictionaries** party → **parties**

but **-ay / -ey / -oy** → **-ys** day → **days** monkey → **monkeys** boy → **boys**

-f / -fe → **-ves** shelf → **shelves** knife → **knives** wife → **wives**

B

These things are plural:



scissors

glasses



trousers



jeans



shorts



tights



pyjamas

Do you wear **glasses**?

Where are the **scissors**? I need **them**.

You can also say **a pair of scissors** / **a pair of trousers** / **a pair of pyjamas** etc.:

I need **a new pair of jeans**. or I need **some new jeans**. (not a new jeans)

C

Some plurals do not end in **-s**:

this **man** → these **men**

one **foot** → two **feet**

that **sheep** → those **sheep**

a **woman** → some **women**

a **tooth** → all my **teeth**

a **fish** → a lot of **fish**

a **child** → many **children**

a **mouse** → some **mice**

also a **person** → **two people** / **some people** / **a lot of people** etc.:

She's a nice **person**.

but **They** are nice **people**. (not nice persons)

D

People is plural (= they), so we say **people are** / **people have** etc.:

A lot of people speak English. (not speaks)

I like **the people** here. **They are** very friendly.

Police is plural:

The police want to talk to anybody who saw the accident. (not The police wants)

Exercises

66.1 Write the plural.

1 flower	flowers	5 umbrella	9 family
2 boat		6 address	10 foot
3 woman		7 knife	11 holiday
4 city		8 sandwich	12 potato

66.2 Look at the pictures and complete the sentences.



1 There are a lot of sheep in the field.
 2 Gary is cleaning his tooth.
 3 There are three people at the bus stop.
 4 Lucy has two children.
 5 There are a lot of fish in the river.
 6 The leaves are falling from the tree.

66.3 Are these sentences OK? Change the sentences where necessary.

1 I'm going to buy some flowers.
 2 I need a new jeans.
 3 It's a lovely park with a lot of beautiful tree.
 4 There was a woman in the car with two mens.
 5 Sheep eat grass.
 6 David is married and has three child.
 7 Most of my friend are student.
 8 He put on his pyjama and went to bed.
 9 We went fishing, but we didn't catch many fish.
 10 Do you know many persons in this town?
 11 I like your trouser. Where did you get it?
 12 The town centre is usually full of tourist.
 13 I don't like mice. I'm afraid of them.
 14 This scissor isn't very sharp.

OK

I need a new pair of jeans. OR
 I need some new jeans.

66.4 Which is right? Complete the sentences.

1 It's a nice place. Many people go there on holiday.
 2 Some people is always late.
 3 The new city hall is not a beautiful building. Most people like it.
 4 A lot of people watch TV every day.
 5 Three people were injured in the accident.
 6 How many people live in that house?
 7 Do the police know the cause of the explosion?
 8 The police are looking for the stolen car.
 9 I need my glasses, but I can't find it.
 10 I'm going to buy a new jeans today.

go or goes?

is or are?

don't or doesn't?

watch or watches?

was or were?

live or lives?

Do or Does?

is or are?

it or them?

a or some?

a bottle / some water

(countable/uncountable 1)

A

A noun can be *countable* or *uncountable*.

Countable nouns

For example: (a) **car** (a) **man** (a) **bottle** (a) **house** (a) **key** (an) **idea** (an) **accident**

You can use **one/two/three** (etc.) + *countable nouns* (you can count them):



one **bottle**



two **bottles**



three **men**



four **houses**

Countable nouns can be *singular* (= one) or *plural* (= two or more):

singular	a car	the car	my car	etc.
plural	cars	two cars	the cars	some cars many cars etc.

- I've got **a car**.
- New **cars** are very expensive.
- There aren't **many cars** in the car park.

You can't use the singular (**car/bottle/key** etc.) alone. You need **a/an**:

- We can't get into the house without **a key**. (not without key)

B

Uncountable nouns

For example: **water** **air** **rice** **salt** **plastic** **money** **music** **tennis**



water



salt



money



music

You can't say **one/two/three** (etc.) + these things: **one water** **two musics**

Uncountable nouns have only *one* form:

money **the money** **my money** **some money** **much money** etc.

- I've got **some money**.
- There isn't **much money** in the box.
- Money** isn't everything.

You can't use **a/an** + *uncountable nouns*: ~~**a money**~~ ~~**a music**~~ ~~**a water**~~

But you can say **a piece of** ... / **a bottle of** ... etc. + *uncountable noun*:

a bottle of water	a carton of milk	a bar of chocolate
a piece of cheese	a bottle of perfume	a piece of music
a bowl of rice	a cup of coffee	a game of tennis

Exercises

67.1 What are these things? Some are countable and some are uncountable. Write **a/an** if necessary. The names of these things are:

bucket	envelope	money	sand	toothbrush	wallet
egg	jug	salt	spoon	toothpaste	water



67.2 Some of these sentences are OK, but some need **a/an**. Write **a/an** where necessary.

1 I don't have watch.	a watch	9 Jamaica is island.
2 Do you like cheese?	OK	10 I don't need key.
3 I never wear hat.		11 Everybody needs food.
4 Are you looking for job?		12 I've got good idea.
5 Kate doesn't eat meat.		13 Can you drive car?
6 Kate eats apple every day.		14 Do you want cup of coffee?
7 I'm going to party tonight.		15 I don't like coffee without milk.
8 Music is wonderful thing.		16 Don't go out without umbrella.

67.3 What are these things? Write **a ... of ...** for each picture. Use the words in the boxes.



bar	cup	loaf
bowl	glass	piece
carton	jar	piece

+ bread milk tea
chocolate paper water
honey soup wood

1 a carton of milk	4	7
2	5	8
3	6	9