Building Your Plural Noun Toolbox

The Seven Essential Tools for Talking About More Than One.

From One to Many: The Power of Plurals

A noun is a word that names a person, place, or thing. When we have more than one, we make it **plural**. This toolbox will give you the right tool for every kind of noun.

Making it Plural!

Singular: One chair

Plural: Two chairs

Tool 1: The Standard 'S' Adder

For most nouns, simply add **s**.

How It Works

chair → chair**s**

house → house**s**

phone → phone**s**

chair**S**

Tool 2: The 'ES' Extender

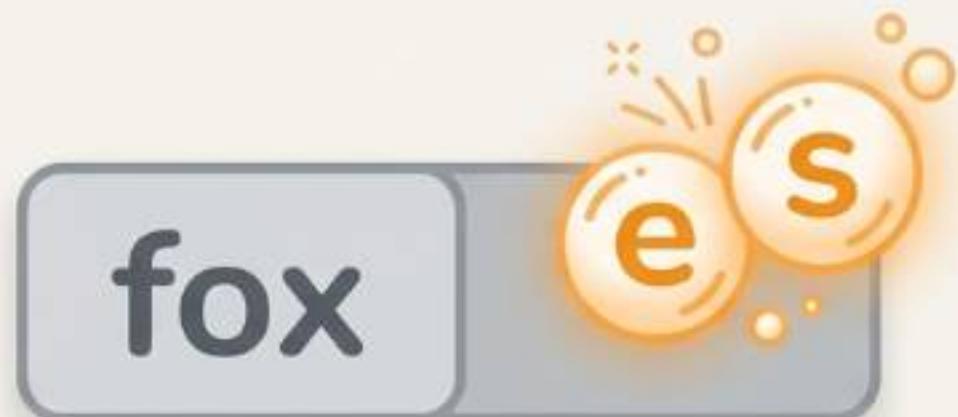Use when a noun ends in **s, sh, ch, x**, or **o**.

How It Works

bus → bus**es**

bush → bush**es**

watch → watch**es**

fox → fox**es**

tomato → tomato**es**

fox **es**

Tool 3: The 'Y-to-IES' Swapper

When a word ends with a **consonant + y**, take away the *y* and add **ies**.

How It Works

fly → fl**ies**
city → cit**ies**
baby → bab**ies**

Tool 4: The "Vowel + Y" Stabilizer

If a word ends with a **vowel** **(a, e, i, o, u) + y**, just add **s**.

How It Works

day → day**s**

key → key**s**

toy → toy**s**

valley → valley**s**

Tool 5: The 'F/FE-to-VES' Shaper

For nouns ending in **f** or **fe**, usually change the ending to **ves**.

How It Works

wolf → wol**ves**

loaf → loa**ves**

life → li**ves**

knife → kni**ves**

wol**f**ves

Tool 6: The Irregular Custom Keys

Some nouns don't follow any rule. These are special cases we just have to remember.

How It Works

man → **men**

woman → **women**

child → **children**

foot → **feet**

tooth → **teeth**

mouse → **mice**

word

Tool 7: The 'No Change' Clamp

Some nouns look the same in singular and plural form.

How It Works

sheep → **sheep**
deer → **deer**
fish → **fish**
series → **series**
species → **species**

Your Complete Plural Noun Toolbox

Blue Wrench: 'S'
Adder: For most nouns.

Orange Extender: 'ES'
Extender: For nouns ending in s, sh, ch, x, o.

Purple Pliers: 'Y-to-IES'
Swapper: For consonant + y.

Blue Brace: 'Vowel + Y'
Stabilizer: For vowel + y, just add s.

Green File: 'F/FE-to-VES'
Shaper: For f or fe endings.

Magenta Keys: Irregular
Custom Keys: Special cases to remember.

Grey Clamp: 'No Change'
Clamp: Some nouns stay the same.

Fantastic Work! You've Mastered the Tools.

You now have the seven essential tools for making nouns plural in English.
You're ready to build clear, correct sentences.

Next Up: A new set of tools for your grammar toolbox — *Articles: A, An*, and *The*.