

Irregular Plurals

How to make plurals:			
• <i>most nouns: + -s</i>	<i>book → books</i>	<i>home → homes</i>	<i>car → cars</i>
• <i>-s, -sh, -ch, -x: + -es</i>	<i>bus → buses</i>	<i>wish → wishes</i>	<i>church → churches</i>
	<i>fox → foxes</i>		
• <i>nouns ending in -y: -y → -ies</i>	<i>baby → babies</i>	<i>lady → ladies</i>	<i>lorry → lorries</i>
• <i>nouns ending in vowel +-y → -s</i>	<i>day → days</i>	<i>toy → toys</i>	<i>monkey → monkeys</i>

Common irregular plurals:			
mouse → mice	child → children	half → halves	sheep → sheep
foot → feet	person → people	knife → knives	fish → fish
tooth → teeth		leaf → leaves	
man → men	potato → potatoes	life → lives	
woman → women	tomato → tomatoes	thief → thieves	

Some nouns are always plural. Some common examples:							
trousers	jeans	tights	shorts	pants	pajamas	glasses	scissors

- Words for groups of people can have singular or plural verbs (*The team is/are playing badly.*)
- We often use plural verbs when we talk about personal actions, e.g. play, want, think (*My family want/wants me to study.*)

A) Write the plurals.

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. boy _____ | 6. garden _____ | 11. dress _____ |
| 2. city _____ | 7. party _____ | 12. cat _____ |
| 3. class _____ | 8. box _____ | 13. key _____ |
| 4. family _____ | 9. country _____ | 14. wish _____ |
| 5. hotel _____ | 10. church _____ | 15. way _____ |

B) Put in plural nouns or simple present verbs.

- Their homes are in Scotland. (*be*)
- Our _____ play a lot of football. (*child*)
- Some people _____ to talk to you. (*want*)
- Big _____ are always dirty. (*city*)
- Their _____ are travelling with them. (*wife*)
- These knives _____ cut very well. (*not cut*)
- My _____ are giving me trouble. (*tooth*)
- Most _____ cry at night. (*baby*)
- How many _____ live here? (*person*)
- Who are those _____ ? (*guy*)

Irregular Plurals – KEY

A)

1. boys
2. cities
3. classes
4. families
5. hotels
6. gardens
7. parties
8. boxes
9. countries
10. churches
11. dresses
12. cats
13. keys
14. wishes
15. ways

B)

1. are
2. children
3. want
4. cities
5. wives
6. don't cut
7. teeth
8. babies
9. people
10. guys