Grammar overview

There are two grammatical types of nouns en Danish (they have to genders, but not like masculine and feminine; they do not depend on real gender, so it's like a grammatical feature.)
These two types are called common gender and neutral gender. Every time you learn a new noun, you should remember its gender. i.e. 'en' or 'et', because their reference to a particular gender affects their grammatical behaviour, that is to say what forms they make in a sentence. The only two forms which are gender dependent here below are singular definite and indefinite. In the plural it is all the same what the gender the noun has. There is no a 100%-rule as why certain words belong to en-group and certain ones to et-group. So we have to remember.

In the plural Danish nouns take endings -er, -r, or -e or they do not change the form. That is two say there are four patterns for making the plural from.

There are a few exceptions, which change their stem, like "en mand, 2 mænd", like in English 'man- men', et barn - børn (a child-children). These exceptions we also have to remember.

See the table below for more examples on the patterns.

ubekendt ental (indefinite singular; NB! like an apple)	bekendt ental (definite singular like the apple)	ubekendt flertal (indefinite plural; NB! like apples)	bekendt flertal (definite plural; NB! like the apples)
en person et kontor	person en (like 'person the' ;-)))) kontor et	person er kontor er	personerne kontorerne
en pige	pig en	piger	pige rne
et æble	æbl et	æbler	æble rne
en fyr	fyr en	fyre	fyrene
et bord	bord et	borde	bordene
en film	film en	film	film ene
et sprog	sprog et	sprog	sprog ene

The dictionary tells you the gender of the noun and gives the info about the plural forms. Please, note, that some nouns may double the letter to preserve the vowel quality.

e.g. http://ordnet.dk/ddo/ordbog?query=kat&search=S%C3%B8g

kat¹ substantiv, fælleskøn

Vis overblik

-ten, -te, -tene ['kad]

Jeg har en kat. (I have a cat.) Katten er sort. (The cat is black.) Min søster har to katte. (My sister has two cats.) Kattene er hvide. (The cats are white.)