

## Nominative Plural

Thus far, we've only ever discussed nouns in the singular. We've talked about nominative singular nouns and adjectives, and accusative singular. Today, we're going to start learning about nominative plural nouns and adjectives. In BCS, plurals look different depending on the grammatical gender of the noun in question. So masculine nouns and the adjectives that modifying them will look different from feminine nouns and adjectives in plural, and they'll both look different than neuter nouns and adjectives in plural.

### Masculine Nouns and Adjectives in Nominative Plural

The plural ending for masculine nouns and adjectives is *-i*. For example, the plural of *prozor* would be *prozori*. If you want to say "beautiful windows" you'd say *lepi/lijepi prozori*. All other words that function as adjectives would also have the ending *-i*. This includes demonstrative pronominal adjectives and possessive pronominal adjectives. So if you want to say "your beautiful windows" you'd write *tvoji lepi/lijepi prozori*. If you want to say "these beautiful windows," you'd say *ovi lepi/lijepi prozori*.

One important detail—masculine nouns that are only one syllable, more often than not, are going to have an extension of the root, *-ovi* (or in rare instances, *-evi*). So for example, if you want to make the word *grad* into plural, you'd say *gradovi*. "Beautiful cities" would be *lepi/lijepi gradovi*. The word *sir* in plural would be *sirevi*, and "delicious cheeses" would be *ukusni sirevi*. One prominent exception to this is *pas* which is *psi* in plural (remember the fleeing-a).

There's also a spelling rule that sometimes affects masculine nouns in nominative plural. In BCS, if "l" comes after the letters K/G/H, they turn into the letters C/Z/S. For example, the word *momak* becomes *momci* in plural due to both the fleeing-a and this spelling rule. Likewise, the word for rug, *tepih*, becomes *tepisi* in plural. \*Note—this rule is not *only* for masculine nominative plural, but rather, it revolves around the placement of the letter "l" in BCS. We'll see it again later, when we learn more cases.

### Feminine Nouns and Adjectives in Nominative Plural

To put a feminine noun or adjective in nominative plural, simply change the *-a* to an *-e*. So the word *mačka* becomes *mačke*. If we want to say "cute cats," we'd write *slatke mačke*. All demonstrative pronominal adjectives as well as possessive pronominal adjectives will also have this ending. Thus, "your cute cats" would be *vaše slatke mačke* and "those cute cats" would be *te/one slatke mačke*.

For F2 nouns, which end in a consonant, rather than use the plural ending *-e*, you'll use the ending *-i*. So the plural of *stvar* would be *stvari*. However, all adjectives that modify these nouns will still have the usual *-e* ending. So for example, "red things" would be *crvene stvari*.

## Neuter Nouns and Adjectives in Nominative Plural

Neuter nouns in nominative plural are the simplest. The -o or -e becomes -a in nominative plural. So *polje* would be *polja* and *jezero* would be *jezera*. The same is true of adjectives. So if we want to say “beautiful fields,” we’d say *lepa/lijepa polja*. And if we want to say “deep lakes,” we’d say *duga jezera*. Of course, demonstrative pronominal adjectives and possessive pronominal adjectives would follow the same pattern. So “his beautiful fields” would be *njegova lepa/lijepa polja*, and “these deep lakes” would be *ova duga jezera*.

The only exception to this pattern for neuter nouns are words like *ime* (“name”) and *vreme/vrijeme* (“time” or “weather” depending on context). Both of these words have plural forms that look very different. *Ime* becomes *imena*, and *vreme/vrijeme* becomes *vremena/vrijemena*. There are only about a dozen neuter nouns like this in BCS, but it just so happens that two of these are these two really common words.

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Tomorrow, we’ll talk about some exceptions to the aforementioned rules. But for now, focus on studying the patterns.

Here are some examples:

*Ovi profesori su moji drugovi.*  
These professors are my friends.

*Naše sestre čitaju ovde/ovdje.*  
Our sisters are reading here.

*Ta crna mesta/mjesta nisu lepa/lijepa.*  
Those black places aren’t pretty.

*Ove nove olovke nisu moje.*  
These new pencils aren’t mine.

*Đaci voli učiteljicu.*  
The pupils love the teacher.

*Zašto su vaše ružne stvari tamo?*  
Why are your (pl.) ugly things over there?

*Ova hrpa je njene/njezine lepe/lijepe haljine.*  
This pile is her beautiful dresses.

*Gde/Gdje su moje posebne pantalone?*

Where are my special pants?

*Dobri drugovi su važni.*

Good friends are important.

*Slatke mačke su najvažnije.*

Cute cats are the most important.

*Koji brojevi su ovde/ovdje?*

Which numbers are here?

*Ovi fini momci vole tebe.*

Those nice guys love you.

All right, so let's practice making our own sentences using plural.