

## Irregular Plural Nouns and Irregular Verbs

### I. Irregular Plural Nouns

In English, there are hundreds of nouns that don't follow the standard rules for pluralization. There are no easy ways to remember them, so they generally have to be memorized.

- **Latinate plurals:** some nouns have retained their plural forms from Latin and other languages.

Singular	Plural
Bacteri <b>um</b>	Bacteri <b>a</b>
Curricul <b>um</b>	Curricula <b>a</b>
Syllab <b>us</b>	Syllabi <b>i</b>
Cact <b>us</b>	Cacti <b>i</b>
Gen <b>us</b>	Genera <b>a</b>
Larva <b>a</b>	Larvae <b>a</b>
antenna <b>a</b>	antennae <b>a</b>

- **-o becoming -oes :** most nouns ending in **-o** are pluralized by adding an **-s**, but some take **-es** instead.

Singular	Plural
Hero <b>o</b>	Hero <b>oes</b>
Potato <b>o</b>	Potato <b>oes</b>

- **-f becoming -ves :** Some nouns ending in **-f** are pluralized by dropping the **-f** and adding **-ves**:

Singular	Plural
Wife	Wives
Calf	Calves

✚ There are some exceptions though: belief – beliefs, cuff – cuffs, dwarf – dwarfs, roof – roofs

- **-is becoming -es** : some nouns ending in **-is** are pluralized by dropping the **-is** and adding **-es**.

Singular	Plural
Analysis	Analyses
Hypothesis	Hypotheses

- **-ix becoming -ices**: some nouns ending in **-ix** are pluralized by dropping the **-ix** and adding **-ices**.

Singular	Plural
Appendix	Appendices
Matrix	Matrices

- **Changing vowel sounds:**

Some nouns change their central vowel sounds when pluralized

Singular	Plural
Foot	Feet
Tooth	Teeth
Goose	Geese

Louse	Lice
Mouse	Mice
Man	Men
Woman	Women

- **Unchanged plurals:** a few nouns are unchanged in their plural forms.

Singular	Plural
Barracks	Barracks
Deer	Deer
Fish	Fish
Gallows	Gallows
Means	Means
Offspring	Offspring
Series	Series
Sheep	Sheep
Species	Species

## II. Irregular Verbs

Irregular verbs are verbs whose past and past participle are not formed by adding –ed or –d to the present. The five sections of this chart show different patterns used to form the past and past participles of many irregular verbs.

	Present	Past	Past Participle		Present	Past	Past Participle
<b>Group 1</b> The forms of the present, past, & past participle are same	burst cost hurt let put set shut	burst cost hurt let put set shut	(have) burst (have) cost (have) hurt (have) let (have) put (have) set (have) shut	<b>Group 4</b> The past participle is formed from the present, often adding <i>-n</i> , <i>-en</i> , or <i>-ne</i> .	do eat fall five go know run see take throw	did ate fell gave went knew ran saw took threw	(have) done (have) eaten (have) fallen (have) given (have) gone (have) known (have) run (have) seen (have) taken (have) thrown
<b>Group 2</b> The forms of past & past participle are same	bring catch get lead sit	brought caught got led sat	(has) brought (has) caught (has) got (has) led (has) sat	<b>Group 5</b> The last vowel changes from <i>i</i> in the present to <i>a</i> in the past, to <i>u</i> in the past participle.	begin drink ring sing sink swim	began drank rang sang sunk swam	(have) begun (have) drunk (have) rung (have) sung (have) sunk (have) swum
<b>Group 3</b> The past participle is formed by adding <i>-n</i> or <i>-en</i> to the past.	break choose freeze lie speak wear	broke chose froze lay spoke wore	(have) broken (have) chosen (have) frozen (have) lain (have) spoken (have) worn				

❖ The different forms of the verb “be” do not follow any pattern.

Present	Past	Past Participle
am, is, are	was, were	(have) been