

# Plural Forms of Nouns

If a noun ends in a vowel, make it plural by adding -s.

libro: libros ..... (libro + s)  
pluma: plumas ..... (pluma + s)  
chico: chicos ..... (chico + s)  
señora: señoras ..... (señora + s)

The definite articles (el, la) also change in the plural form. They become "los" and "las."  
The definite articles will be covered in depth in the next lesson.

el libro: los libros  
la pluma: las plumas  
el chico: los chicos  
la señora: las señoras

If a noun ends in a consonant, make it plural by adding -es.

el borrador: los borradores (borrador + es)  
la universidad: las universidades (universidad + es)  
el profesor: los profesores (profesor + es)  
la ciudad: las ciudades (ciudad + es)

If a noun ends in -ión, add -es and drop the written accent.

el avión: los aviones  
la conversación: las conversaciones  
la sección: las secciones  
la televisión: las televisiones

NOTE: You may wonder why "avión" isn't feminine. Notice that it doesn't qualify for our rule which says that all nouns ending in -ción and sión are feminine.

If a noun ends in -z, add -es and change the z to c.

el lápiz: los lápices                      la voz: las voces  
el tapiz: los tapices                      la actriz: las actrices

When the plural refers to two or more nouns of different genders, the masculine plural is used.

2 perros + 6 perras = 8 perros (not perras)  
1 gato + 8 gatas = 9 gatos (not gatas)

A few nouns are "compound nouns," that is, they are formed by combining two words into one. (Example: abre + latas = abrelatas / open + cans = can opener) These compound nouns are always masculine, and the plural is formed by changing the "el" to "los."

el abrelatas ..... los abrelatas  
el paraguas ..... los paraguas

Let's review the rules for making nouns plural.

- If a noun ends in a vowel, simply add -s.
- If a noun ends in a consonant, simply add -es.
- If a noun ends in -z, change the z to c before adding -es.
- If a noun ends in -ión, drop the written accent before adding -es.
- If the plural refers to a mixed group, use the masculine.
- For compound nouns, change "el" to "los".