

PLURALS AND POSSESSIVES

Delgado Community College

What are plurals? Plural refers to more than one thing for nouns, pronouns, or verbs.

Type	Rule	Singular	Plural
Regular Nouns	Add -s	car, football, dog	Cars, footballs, dogs
Nouns that end in vowel followed by a -y	Add -s	Poboy, holiday	Poboys, holidays
Nouns that end in a consonant followed by a -y	Drop the -y and add -ie before -s	ruby, body	Rubies, bodies
Irregular Nouns	Don't add -s	man, goose	Men, geese
Nouns that end in a sibilant (sh, s, x, ch, z)	Add -es	couch, breeze, ax	couches, breezes, axes
Count nouns that end in -f	Change -f to -ves	life, wife	lives, wives

What are possessives? Possessive refers to a word that shows ownership, ex. A noun that possessives another noun,

Type	Rule	Example
Regular Nouns	Add apostrophe ['] plus -s	coat of the man = man's coat
Plural nouns that don't end in -s	Add -s	restroom for women = women's restroom, toys for children = children's toys
Plural forms of nouns that end in -s	Add an apostrophe [']	attitudes of coaches = coaches' attitudes
Proper names with -s endings	add apostrophe [']	New Orleans' residents, Jones' car
Nouns with silent -s endings	Add apostrophe ['] plus -s	Arkansas's governor
