

List of irregular plurals in english pdf

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Most English nouns form their plural by adding either -s (books, bands, bells) or -es (boxes, bunches, batches). These plural forms are said to follow a regular pattern. "The Penguin Writer's Manual" "There are no easy rules, unfortunately, for irregular plurals in English. They simply have to be learnt and remembered." Not all nouns conform to the standard pattern. In fact, some of the most common English nouns have irregular plural forms, such as woman/women and child/children. In addition, several nouns have alternative plurals, one regular and the other irregular. In regard to these alternative forms, there are no strict rules to guide our use of them. "The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language" "People have to learn which form to use as they meet the words for the first time, and must become aware of variations in usage. When there is a choice, the classical [irregular] plural is usually the more technical, learned, or formal, as in the case of formulas vs. formulae or curriculums vs. curricula. Sometimes, alternative plurals have even developed different senses, as in the cases of (spirit) mediums vs. (mass) media, or appendices (in bodies or books) vs. appendices (only in books)." As you'll see in the list that follows, many words with irregular plurals are loanwords that have kept their foreign plural forms (or at least held on to those forms as alternatives to regular English plurals). In the list below, you'll find singular noun forms in the left column and the corresponding plural forms in the right column. When a noun has more than one plural form, the irregular one appears first, though that doesn't necessarily mean that the irregular form is more widely accepted than the regular form. addendum addenda or addendums aircraft aircraft alumna alumnae alumnus alumni analysis analyses antenna antennae or antennas antithesis antitheses apex apices or apexes appendix appendices or appendices axis axes bacillus bacilli bacterium bacteria basis bases beau beaux or beaus bison bison bureau bureaux or bureaus cactus cacti or cactus or cactuses château châteaux or châteaux child children codex codices concerto concerti or concertos corpus corpora crisis crises criterion criteria or criterions curriculum curricula or curriculums datum data deer deer or deers diagnosis diagnoses die dice or dies dwarf dwarves or dwarfs ellipsis ellipses erratum errata faux pas faux pas fez fezzes or fezes fish fish or fishes focus foci or focuses foot feet or foot formula formulae or formulas fungus fungi or funguses genus genera or genusses goose geese graffito graffiti grouse grouse or grouses half halves hoof hooves or hoofs hypothesis hypotheses index indices or indexes larva larvae or larvas libretto libretti or librettos loaf loaves locus loci louse lice man men matrix matrices or matrices medium media or mediums memorandum memoranda or memorandums minuita minutiae moose moose mice nebula nebulae or nebulas nucleus nuclei or nucleuses oasis oases offspring offspring or offsprings opus opus opera or opuses ovum ova ox oxen or ox parenthesis parentheses phenomenon phenomena or phenomenonons phylum phyla quiz quizzes radius radii or radiuses referendum referenda or referendums salmon salmon or salmons scarf scarves or scarfs self selves series series sheep sheep shrimp shrimp or shrimps species species stimulus stimuli stratum strata swine swine syllabus syllabi or syllabuses symposium symposia or symposiums synopsis synopses tableau tableaux or tableaus thesis theses thief thieves tooth teeth trout trout or trouts tuna tuna or tunas vertebra vertebrae or vertebras vertex vertices or vertexes vita vitae vortex vortices or vortexes wharf wharves or wharfs wife wives wolf wolves woman women Crystal, David. "The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language." 3rd Edition, Cambridge University Press, January 24, 2019.Manser, Martin. "Penguin Writers Manual." Penguin Reference Books, Stephen Curtis, Paperback, International Edition, UK ed. edition, Penguin UK, August 24, 2004. "Ow!" "Ack!" "Yikes!" No doubt, anyone familiar with comic books is well versed in these pithy little utterances. Interjections (or, as they're sometimes—somewhat misleadingly—called, exclamations) are words or short phrases that stand apart from the rest of a sentence grammatically or appear on their own without a subject and verb. Interjections often pack an emotional punch that can make fictional dialogue more realistic. Interjections are short phrases often used to exclaim.They can stand on their own as sentences. Interjections are the "outlaws of English grammar" as illustrated in this writer's other interjections piece: "Interjections usually stand apart from normal sentences, defiantly maintaining their syntactic independence. (Yeah!) They aren't marked inflectionally for grammatical categories such as tense or number. (No sirree!) And because they show up more frequently in spoken English than in writing, most scholars have chosen to ignore them. (Aw.)" As you read through this list, see if you can pick out the interjections that have more than one meaning or can be used in more than one way. Additional spellings or usages are listed in parentheses. Ah: Ah, I don't know if that's true. Aha: Aha! I figured it out! Ahem: Ahem, could you boys stop talking so we could get on with class, please? Alas: Alas, it was not to be. Amen: Amen, hallelujah, amen! Aw: Aw, do we have to? Awesome: You two are dating? Awesome! Aww: Aww, that's so cute! Bada-bing (bada-bing, bada-bing, bada-boom): "You've gotta get up close like this—andbada-BING!—you blow their brains all over your nice Ivy League suit." (From "The Godfather," 1972) Bah: Bah, humbug! Baloney: Oh, baloney. I don't believe that. Big deal: Big deal. Who cares? Bingo: Bingo! Right on target! Boo: Boo! Scared you! Boo-hoo: That makes me sad. Boo-hoo. Booyah (boo-yah): Yeah, I aced this test. Booyah! Boy (boy oh boy): Oh boy. Oh boy, oh boy. That's heavy, man. Bravo: Bravo! That was fantastic! Brilliant: Brilliant, luv, absolutely brilliant! (British English.) Brrr: Brrr! Minus 30 degrees? Yuk. Bull: Bull. It's not 30 below zero, not really. Bye (bye-bye): Bye! See you later! Cheers: Cheers, mate! You're welcome. (British English); Cheers! Raise a toast! (American English.) Come on (c'mon): Come on. Hurry up. Cool: Oh, wow, that is so cool! Cowabunga: "Cowabunga, dude." ("Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles") Dang: Dang it! Where'd I put that? Darn (darn it): Darn it! I can't find the other one either! Dear me: Oh, dear me. What are we going to do? Duck: Duck! No, really! Get down! Duh: Well, duh. I can't believe you didn't know that. Eh: Eh? What? Enjoy: Enjoy! I hope you like it! Excellent: "Party time, excellent!" ("Wayne's World") Fabulous: Fabulous! That's just wonderful! Fantastic: Fantastic! I just love it! Fiddle-dee-dee (fiddle-dee-dee): "Fiddle-dee-dee!" "Fiddle-dee-dee!" War, war, war: this war talk's spoiling all the fun at every party this spring. I get so bored I could scream." ("Gone With the Wind") Finally: Finally! I never thought that'd be done. For heaven's sake(s): "Oh, for heaven's sake, don't you know your Bible?" ("Little House on the Prairie") Fore: Fore! (Look out! in golf) Foul: Foul! In baseball, the ball went out of bounds, otherwise an infraction. Freeze: Freeze! Stop right there! Gee (gee whiz, gee willikers): Well gee whiz, Pa, why do I have to do that? Giddyap (giddyup): Giddyup, Silver! Go, horse, go! Golly (good golly, golly gee willikers): Golly, that sure was tasty. Goodbye (good-bye): Goodbye, see you again soon! Good grief: "Good grief, Charlie Brown." ("Peanuts") Good heavens: Good heavens! How did that happen? Gosh: "Whatever I feel like I wanna do, gosh!" ("Napoleon Dynamite") Great: Great! I'm so excited you'll come along! Great balls of fire: "Goodness gracious, great balls of fire!" ("Great Balls of Fire," Jerry Lee Lewis) Ha: Ha-ha! That's funny! Hallelujah: Glory be to God, hallelujah! Heavens (heavens above, heavens to Betsy): Oh, heavens! How could you think that? Heigh-ho: Heigh-ho neighbor! How are you? Hello: Hello! How are things with you? Help: Help! I need somebody ("Help!" The Beatles) Hey (hey there): Hey! Look over there! Hi (hiya): Hi! What's up? Hip, hip, hooray: We won! On the count of three, everyone: Hip, hip hooray! Hip, hip, hooray! Hm (hm): Hmm. Let me think about that for a bit. Ho-ho-ho: Ho-ho-ho, Merry Christmas! Holy mackerel (holy cow, holy moly, holy Moses, holy smokes): Holy mackerel! I can't believe it! Ho-hum: Ho-hum, how boring. Hooray (hurrah, hurra): Hooray! That's awesome! Howdy (howdy do): Howdy, pardner. Huh: Huh. I have no idea. Ick: Ick! How gross! Indeed: indeed! I'll bet you didn't know that! Jeez: Jeez, do we really have to go through this now? Kaboom: Kaboom! It blew up! Kapow: And Batman hit the evildoer, kapow! Lordy (lordy, lordy): Oh lordy, lordy, look who's 40! Mama mia, let me go. ("Bohemian Rhapsody," Queen) Man: Man, that's unbelievable. Marvelous: Marvelous! Oh, honey, that's just wonderful. My: "My! I never once thought of it, Huck!" ("The Adventures of Tom Sawyer") My goodness (my heavens, my stars, my word): My goodness, issa' that just grand? Nah: Nah, it'll never work. No problem: Thank you. No problem. No way (no way José): No way! I can't believe it. Nope: Nope. I can't do that. Nuts: Nuts! I wish I didn't have to. Oh (oh boy, oh dear, oh my, oh my gosh, oh my goodness, oh no, oh well): Oh! That's shocking! OK (okay): OK, sounds great. Thank you. Ouch: Ouch! That hurt! Ow: Ow! That stung! Please: Would you help me, please? Poof: Poof! She just disappeared. Shh: Shh! Quiet in the library! Super: Super! That's fantastic! Swell: Swell! How great! Welcome: Welcome! Come in!: (You're) Welcome! Well: Well, I just don't know about that. Whoop-de-doo: Well whoop-de-doo. (sarcasm) I so don't care. Woo-hoo: Woo-hoo! That's fantastic! Wow: Wow! I love it! Yabba dabba doo: "Yabba dabba doo!" ("The Flintstones") Yadda, yadda, yadda: "Well, we were engaged to be married, uh, we bought the wedding invitations, and, uh, yada, yada, yada, I'm still single." ("Seinfeld") Yippee: Yippee! That's exciting! Yummy: Yummy! I love chocolate cake! (Interjections have traditionally been treated as one of the eight parts of speech (or word classes). But it's worth keeping in mind that many interjections can do double or triple duty as other parts of speech. For instance, when a word such as boy or awesome appears by itself (often followed by an exclamation point in writing), it functions as an interjection: Boy! You have an answer for everything.The crew chief handed me my first paycheck. "Awesome!" I said. But when that same word shows up syntactically integrated into a sentence, it usually operates as a different part of speech. In the following examples, boy is a noun, and awesome is an adjective: The boy ate a Snickers bar.Seeing the northern lights for the first time was an awesome experience. Words that are used only as interjections are called primary interjections, while words that also belong to other word classes are called secondary interjections. Oh! Here's something else to look out for. The meanings of interjections sometimes change depending on the context in which they're used. The word oh, for example, may indicate surprise, disappointment, or delight: Oh! I didn't see you sitting there.Oh...I was hoping you could stay for a while.Oh! I'm so glad you came!

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