

Irregular Plurals

US → I

SINGULAR	PLURAL
alumnus	alumni
cactus	cacti
focus	foci/focuses
fungus	fungi/funguses
hippopotamus	hippopotami
nucleus	nuclei
octopus	octopi
radius	radii
stimulus	stimuli
terminus	termini
platypus	platypus
status	status
virus	viruses

IX → ICES

SINGULAR	PLURAL
appendix	appendices
index	indices/indexes
matrix	matrices/matrixes
vertex	vertices

A

SINGULAR	PLURAL
bacterium	bacteria
corpus	corpora
consortium	consortia
criterion	criteria
curriculum	curricula
datum <small>(data point)</small>	data
genus	genera
medium	media
memorandum	memoranda
phenomenon	phenomena
stratum	strata
spectrum	spectra
symposium	symposia

EAU → EAUX

SINGULAR	PLURAL
beau	beaux
bureau	bureaus/bureaux
tableau	tableaux/tableaus

MA → TA

SINGULAR	PLURAL
Stigma	stigmata/stigmas
Schema	schemata/schemas
dogma	dogmata/dogmas

IS → ES

SINGULAR	PLURAL
axis	axes
analysis	analyses
basis	bases
crisis	crises
diagnosis	diagnoses
ellipsis	ellipses
hypothesis	hypotheses
oasis	oases
paralysis	paralyses
parenthesis	parentheses
synthesis	syntheses
synopsis	synopses
thesis	theses

A → AE

SINGULAR	PLURAL
antenna	antennae/antennas
formula	formulae/formulas
nebula	nebulae
vertebra	vertebrae
vita	vitae



+EN

SINGULAR	PLURAL
child	children
man	men
ox	oxen
woman	women
brother	brethren*

F → VES

SINGULAR	PLURAL
calf	calves
leaf	leaves
life	lives
loaf	loaves
knife	knives
shelf	shelves
wolf	wolves

Mutated Plurals

OO → EE

SINGULAR	PLURAL
foot	feet
goose	geese
tooth	teeth

OUSE → ICE

SINGULAR	PLURAL
louse	lice
mouse	mice
die	dice

NO CHANGE

SINGULAR	PLURAL
deer	deer
fish	fish
means	means
offspring	offspring
series	series
sheep	sheep
species	species
buffalo	buffalo
salmon	salmon
moose	moose
bison	bison
swin	swine
trout	trout
aircraft	aircraft

Slavic

apparatchik	apparatchiki
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Japanese

samurai	samurai
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Hebrew

cherub	cherubim/cherubs
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Arabic

Monsoon	Monsoon
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- Adhering to Latin plurals is more common in scientific academic contexts, as words become more common and anglicized plurals becomes acceptable.
- The word 'Data' is acceptable as both singular and plural in American English, but less so in British English.

- Plurale tantum:
"things with two parts"
interchangeable with
"Pair of _____"

glasses
panty hose
tongs
trousers
scissors
shorts
pliers
pants
suspenders

- Remember the /y/ → /ies/ & the /s/, /z/, /iz/ pronunciation rules.

