

train(s) bus(es) (singular and plural)

A

The plural of a noun is usually **-s**:

singular (= one)	→	plural (= two or more)
a flower	→	some flowers
a train	→	two trains
one week	→	a few weeks
a nice place	→	some nice places
this student	→	these students



a flower

some **flowers**

Spelling (see Appendix 5):

-s / -sh / -ch / -x	→	-es	bus → buses	dish → dishes
			church → churches	box → boxes
		also	potato → potatoes	tomato → tomatoes
-y	→	-ies	baby → babies	dictionary → dictionaries
but -ay / -ey / -oy	→	-ys	day → days	monkey → monkeys
				boy → boys
-f / -fe	→	-ves	shelf → shelves	knife → knives
				wife → wives

B

These things are plural in English:



scissors

glasses



pants



jeans



shorts



tights



pajamas

Do you wear **glasses**?
 Where are the **scissors**? I need them.

You can also say **a pair of scissors / a pair of pants / a pair of pajamas**, etc.:

I need **a new pair of jeans**. or I need **some new jeans**. (not a new jeans)

C

Some plurals do *not* end in **-s**:

this man → these men	one foot → two feet	that sheep → those sheep
a woman → some women	a tooth → all my teeth	a fish → a lot of fish
a child → many children	a mouse → some mice	

also **a person** → **two people / some people / a lot of people**, etc.:

She's a nice **person**.
 but **They** are nice **people**. (not nice persons)

D

People is plural (= they), so we say **people are / people have**, etc.:

A lot of people speak English. (not speaks)
 I like **the people** here. **They are** very friendly.

Police is plural:

The police want to talk to anybody who saw the accident. (not The police wants)

Exercises

64.1 Write the plural.

1 flower	flowers	5 umbrella	.....	9 family	.....
2 boat	.....	6 address	.....	10 foot	.....
3 woman	.....	7 knife	.....	11 holiday	.....
4 city	.....	8 sandwich	.....	12 potato	.....

64.2 Look at the pictures and complete the sentences.



1 There are a lot of sheep in the field.
 2 Gary is brushing his teeth.
 3 There are three people at the bus stop.
 4 Lucy has two children.
 5 There are a lot of fish in the river.
 6 The leaves are falling from the tree.

64.3 Are these sentences OK? Change the sentences where necessary.

1 I'm going to buy some flowers.
 2 I need a new jeans.
 3 It's a lovely park with a lot of beautiful tree.
 4 There was a woman in the car with two mens.
 5 Sheep eat grass.
 6 David is married and has three childs.
 7 Most of my friend are student.
 8 He put on his pajama and went to bed.
 9 We went fishing, but we didn't catch many fish.
 10 Do you know many persons in this town?
 11 I like your pants. Where did you get it?
 12 Montreal is usually full of tourist.
 13 I don't like mice. I'm scared of them.
 14 This scissor isn't very sharp.

OK

I need a new pair of jeans. or
I need some new jeans.

64.4 Which is right? Complete the sentences.

1 It's a nice place. Many people go there on vacation.
 2 Some people always late.
 3 The new city hall is not a beautiful building. Most people like it.
 4 A lot of people TV every day.
 5 Three people injured in the accident.
 6 How many people in that house?
 7 the police know the cause of the explosion?
 8 The police looking for the stolen car.
 9 I need my glasses, but I can't find
 10 I'm going to buy new jeans today.

go or goes?
is or are?

don't or doesn't?
watch or watches?
was or were?
live or lives?
Do or Does?
is or are?
it or them?
a or some?