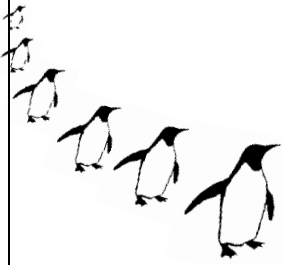


Plural Nouns



In English we use -s, -es, and irregular plural nouns to indicate more than one thing, and sometimes we make no change.

Examples

penguin-penguins, bush-bushes, goose-geese, deer-deer



Danish also has FOUR different ways to indicate a plural

- 1) **-er** (or -r, if the word already ends in "e"): This is the most common plural.
Examples: gave-gaver (gift/s), træ-træer (tree/s), flaske-flasker (bottle/s), sofa-sofaer (sofa/s)
- 2) **-e**: This is the second most common plural.
Examples: dag-dage (day/s), stol-stole (chair/s), sang-sange (song/s), bæk-bænke (bench/es)
- 3) **-**: Add nothing. This is the third most common plural. It is more common than in English.
Examples: dyr-dyr (animal/s), glas-glas (glass/es), mus-mus (mouse, mice),
- 4) **irregular**: There are a few of these, just as there are in English.
Examples: mand-mænd (man-men), kartoffel-kartofler (potato/es), mor-mødre (mom/s) tå-tæer (toe/s)

Note! Some words double their final consonant before adding the plural. This does not make them irregular.
RULE OF THUMB: If the stressed syllable contains a short vowel + 1 consonant, then double the consonant and add plural ending.

Examples: hat-hatte (hat/s), butik-butikker (shop/s), ven-venner (friend/s), hotel-hoteller (hotel/s)

Dictionary Notations

In the Red Dictionaries and some of the others, the plural is given right after the gender of the word: [for example, *vindue (et, -r)*] This means that the word *vindue* is an "et" word (*et vindue*) and you add "r" to make a plural (*vinduer*). Some dictionaries also indicate when to double the consonant. I prefer to give you the gender first, and the plural afterward. If the plural is irregular, the entire plural is given.

en blyant, -er (pencil)
et barn, børn

This means *en blyant* = a pencil, *blyanten* = the pencil, and *blyanter* = pencils
This means *et barn* = a child, *barnet* = the child, and *børn* = children

Plurals Exercise: Fill in the columns with the indefinite singular, the definite singular, and the plural

<u>Word</u>	<u>Meaning</u>	<u>Singular</u> <u>indefinite (a, an)</u>	<u>Singular</u> <u>definite (the)</u>	<u>Plural</u>
en svamp, -e	mushroom	_____	_____	_____
en pude, -r	pillow	_____	_____	_____
en tand, tænder	tooth	_____	_____	_____
en kat, -te	cat	_____	_____	_____
et eksempel, eksempler	example	_____	_____	_____
et bær, -	berry	_____	_____	_____