

02

Nomi particolari

Nouns with unusual plurals

Noun group ending in -a

Some nouns ending in -a are masculine and form the plural with -i	poeta (m)	poeti
	problema (m)	problemi
	programma (m)	programmi
	Careful!	
	cinema (m)	cinema
Nouns ending in -ista are can be masculine or feminine. The singular is always -ista while the plural form changes.	farmacista (m)	farmacisti
	farmacista (f)	farmaciste
	giornalista (m)	giornalisti
	giornalista (f)	giornaliste
The plural of nouns ending in -cia and -gia is -cie and -gie if the group is preceded by a vowel . The plural of nouns ending in -cia and -gia is -ce and -ge if the group is preceded by a consonant .	camicia (f)	camicie
	valigia (f)	valigie
	doccia (f)	docce
	arancia (f)	arance
	pioggia (f)	piogge
	spiaggia (f)	spiagge
	Careful!	
When the -i in -cia and -gia is stressed the plural is always -cie and -gie	farmacia (f)	farmacie
	bugia (f)	bugie
	allergia (f)	allergie
The plural of masculine nouns ending in -ca and -ga is -chi and -ghi. The plural of feminine nouns ending in -ca and -ga is -che and -ghe.	duca (m)	duchi
	collega (m)	collegli
	amica (f)	amiche
	collega (f)	colleghe

Noun group ending in -o

The plural of nouns of two syllables ending in -co and -go is -chi and -ghi.	fuoco (m)	fuochi
	luogo (m)	luoghi
	cuoco (m)	cuochi
	Careful!	
The plural of nouns of more than two syllables ending in -co and -go is -chi and -ghi if -co and -go are preceded by a consonant .	tedesco (m)	tedeschi
	albergo (m)	alberghi

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<p>But the plural of nouns of more than two syllables ending in -co and -go is -ci and -gi if -co and -go are preceded by a vowel.</p>	<table border="0"> <tr><td>nemico</td><td>(m)</td><td>nemici</td></tr> <tr><td>asparago</td><td>(m)</td><td>asparagi</td></tr> <tr><td>medico</td><td>(m)</td><td>medici</td></tr> </table>	nemico	(m)	nemici	asparago	(m)	asparagi	medico	(m)	medici			
nemico	(m)	nemici											
asparago	(m)	asparagi											
medico	(m)	medici											
<p>Important!</p> <p>As you can see, there are many exceptions to this rule. If in doubt, look up the noun in your dictionary.</p>	<p>Careful!</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>carico</td><td>(m)</td><td>carichi</td></tr> <tr><td>obbligo</td><td>(m)</td><td>obblighi</td></tr> </table>	carico	(m)	carichi	obbligo	(m)	obblighi						
carico	(m)	carichi											
obbligo	(m)	obblighi											
<p>The plural of nouns ending in -logo is -logi if they refer to people.</p>	<table border="0"> <tr><td>psicologo</td><td>(m)</td><td>psicologi</td></tr> <tr><td>radiologo</td><td>(m)</td><td>radiologi</td></tr> </table>	psicologo	(m)	psicologi	radiologo	(m)	radiologi						
psicologo	(m)	psicologi											
radiologo	(m)	radiologi											
<p>The plural of other nouns ending in -logo is -loghi if they refer to things.</p>	<table border="0"> <tr><td>catalogo</td><td>(m)</td><td>cataloghi</td></tr> <tr><td>dialogo</td><td>(m)</td><td>dialoghi</td></tr> </table>	catalogo	(m)	cataloghi	dialogo	(m)	dialoghi						
catalogo	(m)	cataloghi											
dialogo	(m)	dialoghi											
<p>The plural of masculine nouns ending in -io is -i, but when the -i is stressed the plural is -ii.</p>	<table border="0"> <tr><td>figlio</td><td>(m)</td><td>figli</td></tr> <tr><td>occhio</td><td>(m)</td><td>occhi</td></tr> <tr><td>bacio</td><td>(m)</td><td>baci</td></tr> <tr><td>zìo</td><td>(m)</td><td>zii</td></tr> </table>	figlio	(m)	figli	occhio	(m)	occhi	bacio	(m)	baci	zìo	(m)	zii
figlio	(m)	figli											
occhio	(m)	occhi											
bacio	(m)	baci											
zìo	(m)	zii											

Invariable nouns

<p>Nouns ending in -à, -è and -ù have the same singular and plural form.</p>	<table border="0"> <tr><td>città</td><td>(f)</td><td>città</td></tr> <tr><td>università</td><td>(f)</td><td>università</td></tr> <tr><td>caffè</td><td>(m)</td><td>caffè</td></tr> <tr><td>tè</td><td>(m)</td><td>tè</td></tr> <tr><td>gioventù</td><td>(f)</td><td>gioventù</td></tr> <tr><td>tribù</td><td>(f)</td><td>tribù</td></tr> <tr><td>menù</td><td>(m)</td><td>menù</td></tr> <tr><td>ragù</td><td>(m)</td><td>ragù</td></tr> </table>	città	(f)	città	università	(f)	università	caffè	(m)	caffè	tè	(m)	tè	gioventù	(f)	gioventù	tribù	(f)	tribù	menù	(m)	menù	ragù	(m)	ragù
città	(f)	città																							
università	(f)	università																							
caffè	(m)	caffè																							
tè	(m)	tè																							
gioventù	(f)	gioventù																							
tribù	(f)	tribù																							
menù	(m)	menù																							
ragù	(m)	ragù																							
<p>Some nouns ending in -o have the same singular and plural form. These are often abbreviations.</p>	<table border="0"> <tr><td>video</td><td>(m)</td><td>video</td></tr> <tr><td>stereo</td><td>(m)</td><td>stereo</td></tr> <tr><td>moto(cicletta)</td><td>(f)</td><td>moto</td></tr> <tr><td>auto(mobile)</td><td>(f)</td><td>auto</td></tr> <tr><td>radio(fonia)</td><td>(f)</td><td>radio</td></tr> <tr><td>foto(grafia)</td><td>(f)</td><td>foto</td></tr> <tr><td>frigo(rifero)</td><td>(m)</td><td>frigo</td></tr> </table>	video	(m)	video	stereo	(m)	stereo	moto(cicletta)	(f)	moto	auto(mobile)	(f)	auto	radio(fonia)	(f)	radio	foto(grafia)	(f)	foto	frigo(rifero)	(m)	frigo			
video	(m)	video																							
stereo	(m)	stereo																							
moto(cicletta)	(f)	moto																							
auto(mobile)	(f)	auto																							
radio(fonia)	(f)	radio																							
foto(grafia)	(f)	foto																							
frigo(rifero)	(m)	frigo																							
<p>Many nouns ending in -ie are feminine and have the same singular and plural form.</p>	<table border="0"> <tr><td>serie</td><td>(f)</td><td>serie</td></tr> <tr><td>specie</td><td>(f)</td><td>specie</td></tr> </table> <p>Careful!</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>moglie</td><td>(f)</td><td>mogli</td></tr> </table>	serie	(f)	serie	specie	(f)	specie	moglie	(f)	mogli															
serie	(f)	serie																							
specie	(f)	specie																							
moglie	(f)	mogli																							

Masculine and feminine nouns of foreign origin are the same in the singular and plural.

autobus	(m)	autobus
film	(m)	film
file	(m)	file
brioche	(f)	brioche
toilette	(f)	toilette
e-mail	(f)	e-mail

Nouns ending in -i are often feminine and have the same singular and plural form.

metropoli	(f)	metropoli
tesi	(f)	tesi
crisi	(f)	crisi

Nouns with irregular plural forms

Some nouns are masculine singular (-o) and feminine plural (-a). This group includes nouns indicating parts of the body.

uovo	(m)	uova	(f)
lenzuolo	(m)	lenzuola	(f)
dito	(m)	dita	(f)
braccio	(m)	braccia	(f)
ginocchio	(m)	ginocchia	(f)

Careful!

mano	(f)	mani	(f)
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Some unusual nouns have a plural that is quite different to the singular.

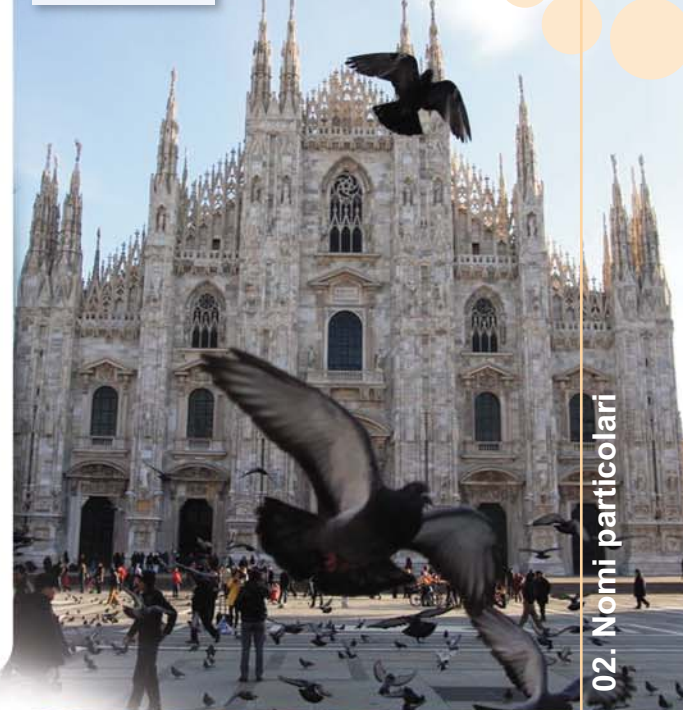
uomo	(m)	uomini
dio	(m)	dei
bue	(m)	buoi

EXERCISES

2.1 Tick the correct box.

	SINGULAR	PLURAL
1. armadio	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. colleghe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. ginocchio	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. pacco	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. operai	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. alberghi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. programma	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. giornaliste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. pioggia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. psicologi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Il Duomo, Milano



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2.2 Choose the correct plural.

- | | | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. problema | a. <input type="checkbox"/> problemi | 6. città | a. <input type="checkbox"/> città |
| | b. <input type="checkbox"/> probleme | | b. <input type="checkbox"/> cittè |
| | c. <input type="checkbox"/> problemo | | c. <input type="checkbox"/> cittì |
| | | | |
| 2. negozio | a. <input type="checkbox"/> negozie | 7. spiaggia | a. <input type="checkbox"/> spiagge |
| | b. <input type="checkbox"/> negozia | | b. <input type="checkbox"/> spiaggia |
| | c. <input type="checkbox"/> negozi | | c. <input type="checkbox"/> spiagge |
| | | | |
| 3. luogo | a. <input type="checkbox"/> luoghe | 8. auto | a. <input type="checkbox"/> auto |
| | b. <input type="checkbox"/> luoghi | | b. <input type="checkbox"/> auti |
| | c. <input type="checkbox"/> luoghu | | c. <input type="checkbox"/> aute |
| | | | |
| 4. mano | a. <input type="checkbox"/> mane | 9. cuoco | a. <input type="checkbox"/> cuoche |
| | b. <input type="checkbox"/> mani | | b. <input type="checkbox"/> cuochi |
| | c. <input type="checkbox"/> manu | | c. <input type="checkbox"/> cuochu |
| | | | |
| 5. camping | a. <input type="checkbox"/> camping | 10. barca | a. <input type="checkbox"/> barce |
| | b. <input type="checkbox"/> campings | | b. <input type="checkbox"/> barchi |
| | c. <input type="checkbox"/> campingi | | c. <input type="checkbox"/> barche |

2.3 Make words, as in the example.

ehe ce gne che le chi gie

1. Cilie


3. Albicoc


5. Me


Pes ... *che* ...


2. Fi


4. Pru


6. Aran


2.4 Put the nouns in the plural.

Gianni vive da poco in una nuova zona di Roma. È molto contento perché è una zona bella e tranquilla con molto verde. Ci sono, infatti, due (1. parco)..... Poi ci sono (2. negozio)....., (3. bar)....., (4. ristorante)..... e due (5. discoteca)..... Ci sono anche due (6. farmacia)..... vicino a casa sua, che possono sempre essere utili.



2.5 Put the nouns in the right group then form the plural. Be careful of the exceptions to the rule in each group!

amica film dialogo doccia computer spiaggia dietologo
dizionario radio auto specie moglie zio

	singular	plural
1	banca	banche
2	catalogo	cataloghi
3	strudel	strudel
4	valigia	valigie
5	serie	serie
6	foto	foto
7	specchio	specchi

2.6 Put the nouns in the right group then form the plural. Be careful of the exceptions to the rule in each group!

uovo università ginocchio menù chirurgo nemico diploma
uomo dentista (f) greco tesi braccio

	singular	plural
1	parco	parchi
2	dito (m)	dita (f)
3	pianista	pianisti
4	panorama	panorami
5	tè	tè
6	metropoli	metropoli
7	dio	dei