

Appendix: Plurals

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Examples of irregular plurals deriving from Latin or Greek

Singular	Plural	Examples
<i>-a</i>	<i>-ae</i> rarely <i>-ata</i>	<i>alga – algae, larva – larvae</i> <i>stoma – stomata</i>
<i>-ex</i>	<i>-ices</i>	<i>index – indices (or indexes*)</i> <i>apex – apices (or apexes*)</i>
<i>-ies</i>	<i>-ies</i>	<i>species, series, facies</i>
<i>-is</i>	<i>-es</i>	<i>axis – axes, hypothesis – hypotheses</i>
<i>-ix</i>	<i>-ices</i>	<i>appendix – appendices (or appendixes*)</i> <i>matrix – matrices (or matrixes*)</i>
<i>-on</i>	<i>-a</i>	<i>phenomenon – phenomena</i> <i>criterion – criteria</i>
<i>-um</i>	<i>-a</i>	<i>datum – data**, bacterium – bacteria</i>
<i>-us</i>	<i>-i</i> rarely <i>-uses</i> or <i>-era</i>	<i>locus – loci, fungus – fungi (or funguses*)</i> <i>sinus – sinuses</i> <i>genus – genera</i>

* Acceptable anglicized plurals that are also listed in dictionaries.

** In non-scientific use, usually treated as a mass noun (like *information*, etc.)

It must be remembered that some nouns used in everyday English also have irregular plural forms (e.g. *woman – women, foot – feet, tooth – teeth, mouse – mice, leaf – leaves, life – lives, tomato – tomatoes*) or have no plural form (e.g. *equipment, information, news*). For more examples, see CSE (2014). If in doubt, consult a dictionary.

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