

MASCHILE O FEMMINILE?

I. Gender of Nouns - In Italian a noun is either masculine or feminine.

Usually nouns ending in **—o** are masculine

and nouns ending in **—a** are feminine.

treno (m) casa (f)

Nouns ending in **—e** can be either masculine or feminine. (you need to memorize the gender).

ristorante (m) stazione (f)

Nouns ending in **—ore** or in a **consonant** are masculine.

fiore (m) autobus (m)

Nouns ending in **—ione** are generally feminine.

lezione (f)

** Be careful of abbreviated words...for example:

foto (fotografia) - although the abbreviation ends in an o it is a feminine noun because the complete word ends in an a

cinema (cinematografo) – although the abbreviation ends in an a it is a masculine noun because the complete word ends in an o

Examples – Look at each word below, if it is masculine write M on the line, if it is feminine write F on the line. Use the rules above to help you.

1. bambino _____

12. bambina _____

2. studente _____

13. città _____

3. casa _____

14. banca _____

4. amico _____

15. studio _____

5. bar _____

16. foto _____

6. ospedale _____

17. ristorante _____

7. conversazione _____

18. autobus _____

8. piazza _____

19. negozio _____

9. professoressa _____

20. sport _____

10. classe _____

21. università _____

11. amica _____

22. edificio _____

SINGOLARE O PLURALE?

II. Plural of Nouns - In Italian the plural is usually formed by changing the final vowel of the noun.

If a noun ends in **-o** it changes to an **-i** uno libroo due librii

If a noun ends in **-a** it changes to an **-e** una casaa due casee

If a noun ends in **-e** it changes to an **-i** un dottoree (*m*) due dottorii
una stazionee (*f*) due stazionii

If a noun ends in **-ca** it changes to **-che** un'amicaa due amichee

If a noun ends in **-ga** it changes to **-ghe** una rigaa due righee

Most nouns which end in **-io** change to **-i** un negozio due negozi
un ufficio due uffici

***** Some nouns do not change in the plural form**

Nouns **ending in an accented vowel**

una città due città un caffè due caffè

Nouns **ending in a consonant**

un bar due bar un film due film

Nouns that are **abbreviated**

un cinema (*cinematografo*) due cinema
una foto (*fotografia*) due foto

Examples: Write the plural form of the words below. Use the rules above to help you.

- | | | | |
|------------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| 1. bambino | _____ | 12. cinema | _____ |
| 2. studente | _____ | 13. città | _____ |
| 3. casa | _____ | 14. banca | _____ |
| 4. amico | _____ | 15. studio | _____ |
| 5. bar | _____ | 16. edificio | _____ |
| 6. ospedale | _____ | 17. ristorante | _____ |
| 7. conversazione | _____ | 18. autobus | _____ |
| 8. piazza | _____ | 19. negozio | _____ |
| 9. professoressa | _____ | 20. sport | _____ |
| 10. classe | _____ | 21. università | _____ |
| 11. amica | _____ | | |