

Compound words:	To make compound words (with or without a hyphen) plural, make the key word plural.	<i>mothers-in-law</i> <i>attorneys general</i>
Plural numbers and plural acronyms	Most writers still use the apostrophe to make numbers and acronyms plural. But a modern trend abolishes the plural apostrophe so stay tuned on this issue.	<i>1980's</i> <i>REIT's</i>

XIII. Petrified by Possessives

Great minds quibble on this issue but there are only two ways to make a possessive under modern usage:

Singular Words:	Add 's even if the word ends in s, z or x.	<i>Degas's paintings have so many ballerinas! (Degas' paintings is no longer modern usage.)</i>
	However, use only the apostrophe if the word is a Biblical or mythological reference or if the next word begins in s. Remember this final rule as the rule against three consecutive s's.	<i>They are carrying Zeus' thunderbolt.</i> <i>Degas' sister loves Degas's paintings.</i>
Plural Words:	(1) add 's if the word does not end in s. (2) add an apostrophe without the s if the word already ends in s.	<i>I'll send those ballerinas to the men's room.</i> <i>Shouldn't you send them to the ladies' room instead?</i> <i>They can borrow the girls' costumes.</i>
Except <i>it</i> and <i>who</i> :	<i>It</i> and <i>who</i> become <i>its</i> and <i>whose</i> .	<i>Whose business is it anyway?</i> <i>The men's room is known for its inclusiveness.</i>