

COMMON NON-COUNT NOUNS

UNDERSTANDING PRE-BEGINNERS GRAMMAR

Some Non-Count Nouns can be countable Review the nouns in the box below.*

food*	clothing	equipment	fruit	furniture
garbage	hardware	jewelry	machinery	mail
makeup	money	cash	change	news
postage	scenery	stuff	traffic	homework
housework	work*	advice	information	noise
history	literature	poetry	psychology	engineering
biology	chemistry	physics	English	Arabic
Chinese	grammar	slang	vocabulary	corn
dirt	dust	flour	grass	hair*
pepper*	rice	salt	sugar	wheat
beer*	blood	coffee*	cream	gasoline
honey	juice	milk	oil	shampoo
soup	tea	water	wine	beard
butter	cheese	ice	ice cream	lettuce
margarine	meat	bacon	beef	chicken*
fish*	lamb*	pork	toast	cement
chalk	copper	cotton	glass*	gold
iron*	paper*	rubber	silver	soap
tin	toothpaste	wood*	wool	air
hydrogen	fog	oxygen	pollution	smog
smoke	steam	hail	heat	humidity
lightning	rain	sleet	snow	light*
thunder	wind	darkness	daylight	moonlight
sunshine	fire	gravity	anger	beauty
confidence	cowardice	enjoyment	education*	entertainment
fun	generosity*	happiness	hate	ignorance
experience*	greed	honesty	hospitality	love*
intelligence	justice	knowledge	laughter	pride
luck	patience	peace	poverty	time
progress	recreation	space*	stupidity	
violence	wealth	gossip	health	

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Some nouns can be used either as a count noun or as a non-count noun. The nouns in this list are frequently used as count nouns as well as non-count nouns. Examples of such are given below.

1. Vegetables and meat are **foods**.
2. The painting is **a work** of art.
3. I heard **some** funny **noises** in the bathroom.
4. There is **a hair** on my coat.
5. I bought **a** green **pepper**.
6. Chris is **a gossip**.
7. Would you like **a beer**?
8. We'll have **two coffees**, please.
9. She drew a picture of **a chicken**, **a fish**, and **a lamb**.
10. I drank **a glass** of water.
11. I press my dress with **an iron**.
12. I wrote **a paper** on Hunter S. Thompson. (a long composition)
13. I like to walk in **the woods**. (woods here is another way of saying forrest)
14. You can get **a** good **education** at that school.
15. I had **many** interesting **experiences** on my trip.
16. Singing is **one** of my greatest **loves**.
17. There is **a space** between each word.
18. How **many times** have you seen her?
19. I made **a fire** to get warm.
20. Please turn off **the lights**.