GENDER AND NOUN OR ADJECTIVE QUALIFIERS

Masculine and Feminine

In French, nouns are always masculine or feminine. Generally to form the feminine we add an "-e" to the masculine form.

Example:

Masculine	Feminine
Un grand ami	*Une grande amie*

If the noun or adjective ends in an –e in the masculine form, there is no change in the feminine form.

Example:

Masculine	Feminine
Un jeune élève	*Une jeune élève*

Occasionally the final syllable changes for the feminine form.

Examples:

Masculine	Feminine
Un beau sportif	*Une belle sportive*
Un nouveua directeur	*Une nouvelle directrice*

Occassionally, we double the final consonant of the feminine form.

Example:

Masculine	Feminine
Un bon musicien	*Une bonne musicienne*

Some adjectives have an irregular feminine form.

Examples:

Masculine	Feminine
Vieux	*Vielle*

Frais	*Fraiche*
Blanc	*Blanche*
Nouveau	*Nouvelle*

Note: In French, some names of professions don't have a feminine form. *Examples*: *professeur, mannequin, médecin.*

Singular and Plural

To form the plural of nouns and adjectives, we usually ad an –s to the singular form.

Examples:

Singular	Plural
Un garçon sympathique	*Des garçons sympathiques*
Une fille jolie	*Des filles jolies*

Nouns and adjectives which end in –s, -x, -z don't change in the plural form.

Examples:

Singular	Plural
Un gros Français	*Des gros Français*
Une vieux T-shirt	*Des vieux T-shirts*

Nouns and masculine adjectives which end in –al in the singlualr form become –aux in the plural form.

Example:

Singular	Plural
Un journal genial	*Des journaux géniaux*

Nouns and adjectives which end in –eau become –eaux in the plural form.

Example:

Singular	Plural
Un nouveau bureau	*Des nouveaux bureaux*