

## Count and Non-Count Nouns: Overview

### Count Nouns

- can be singular or plural
- used with singular or plural verbs

### Non-Count Nouns

- have only one form, with no “s” or “-es” endings
- used with singular verbs

Some **non-count** nouns can be used as **count** nouns when we talk about the **whole object**, not part of an object.

Examples: *I ate chicken for dinner last night.* (non-count)

*The farmer has four chickens.* (count)

*The children are eating cake.* (non-count)

*I bought two cakes, one chocolate and one vanilla.* (plural count)

*Maria made a cake for Jim’s birthday.* (singular count)

**Non-count** nouns do not have plural forms. To express the number of a non-count noun we can use **units of measure**. The unit of measure can be the **container**, **amount** or **shape** of the non-count noun. We don’t put “s” or “-es” on non-count nouns with units of measure.

**Form:** unit of measure + of + non-count noun

Examples: *There are two bottles of wine on the table.* (container)

*I need two kilograms of cheese.* (amount)

*Kim ate two slices of pizza.* (shape)

*Fill in the blanks with the COUNT or NON-COUNT form of the noun.*

1. Theresa ate \_\_\_\_\_ at Kevin’s birthday party. (*cake / a cake*)
2. My little brother ate \_\_\_\_\_ (*pizza / pizzas*) for dinner.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ is a popular type of meat. (*chicken / a chicken*)
4. I love to eat \_\_\_\_\_ (*cheese / a cheese*) and crackers.
5. He eats \_\_\_\_\_ (*fish / a fish*) often because he doesn’t like red meat.
6. Jack has a pet. His pet is \_\_\_\_\_ (*fish / a fish*) named Goldy.

Beginner 2 – Exercise 24 - Count and Non-Count Nouns: Overview

*Choose a UNIT OF MEASURE from the box to complete each sentence. Use each word once.*

kilograms	bottle	cans	box	pieces
bags	liters	cups	glass	slices

1. Paul drinks three \_\_\_\_\_ of cola every day.
2. They are buying two \_\_\_\_\_ of potatoes.
3. My mother has a \_\_\_\_\_ of cookies in the cupboard.
4. I ate three \_\_\_\_\_ of cake!
5. He needs two \_\_\_\_\_ of milk.
6. There is a \_\_\_\_\_ of shampoo in the shower.
7. I'm hungry. I want three \_\_\_\_\_ of pizza.
8. Lisa drinks a \_\_\_\_\_ of orange juice in the morning.
9. Kevin has four \_\_\_\_\_ of coffee in the morning.
10. Let's buy five \_\_\_\_\_ of chips for the party.