



# DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILIES

A number of Russian nouns take irregular or slightly idiosyncratic plurals. Notably, almost all family-related nouns (and a few others pertaining to human relationships) harbor some quirk or other, as can be seen below.

1. Feminine nouns with stress shift in plural:

сестра	→	сёстры
жена	→	жёны
семья́	→	се́мьи

2. Feminine nouns with extended stem *in all forms except Nom. sing.*:

мать	→	ма́тери
дочь	→	до́чери

3. Masculine nouns with extended stem *in plural*, AND with -ья ending:

муж	→	му́жья
сын	→	сыно́вьѧ
брат	→	бра́тья
[друг	→	дру́зьѧ]

4. The “e” in отец is a fleeting vowel (and the word is end-stressed):

отец	→	отцы́
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5. человек (*person*) and ребёнок (*child*) change to completely different words in the plural:

челове́к	→	лю́ди
ребёнок	→	де́ти

6. The hard “д” in сосед becomes soft in the plural:

сосе́д	→	сосе́ди
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