

PARTITIVE

I. NON-COUNT nouns are ALWAYS singular & generally CANNOT be counted.

I cooked rice for dinner.

Sue likes to eat her toast with butter and jam.

II. NON-COUNT nouns CAN be counted if they are preceded by an expression of quantity. However, they still are ALWAYS singular.

bag(s) of	onions	glass(es) of	milk
bottle(s) of	wine	head(s) of	lettuce
bowl(s) of	cereal	jar(s) of	jam
box(es) of	cookies*	loaf / loaves of	bread
bunch(es) of	carrots*	order(s) of	French fries*
can(s) of	soup	piece(es) of	cake
cup(s) of	rice	pound(s) of	flour
dish (es) of	ice cream	quart(s) of	orange juice
slice(s) of	cheese	dozen(s)	eggs*
		stick(s) of	butter

A. The expression of quantity PRECEDES both COUNT & NON-COUNT nouns

I ate A BOWL OF *cereal* for breakfast.

We had A DISH OF *ice cream* for dessert.

B. The expression of quantity MAY BE plural, but the NON-COUNT noun must always be SINGULAR.

I bought two BOTTLES OF *wine* & few JARS OF *jam*.
(non-count)

My mother always buys a few BOXES OF *cookies* when she goes to the store. (count)