

Latin Grammar: Quick Reference Study Guide

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LATIN GRAMMAR

NOUNS

NOUNS OF THE FIRST DECLENSION

The gender of most first declension nouns is feminine. There are a few exceptions, such as *poeta* (poet), *princeps* (prince), *agnoscus* (farmer), *vicus* (settlement) and *navis* (ship), best remembered by the acronym *F-PAAN*. These are masculine.

	SINGULAR	PLURAL
NOMINATIVE	<i>rosa</i>	<i>rosae</i>
GENITIVE	<i>rosae</i>	<i>rosarum</i>
DATIVE	<i>rosae</i>	<i>rosis</i>
ACCUSATIVE	<i>rosam</i>	<i>rosas</i>
ABLATIVE	<i>rosa</i>	<i>rosis</i>

NOUNS OF SECOND DECLENSION (M)

	SINGULAR	PLURAL
NOMINATIVE	<i>dominus</i>	<i>domini</i>
GENITIVE	<i>domini</i>	<i>dominorum</i>
DATIVE	<i>domino</i>	<i>dominis</i>
ACCUSATIVE	<i>dominum</i>	<i>dominos</i>
ABLATIVE	<i>domino</i>	<i>dominis</i>

There are some nouns in this declension which have a nominative singular in *-er*, *-es* or *-us*. Some have *-i* (e.g. *laicus* the genitive singular *laici*, *juuvenis* and *vetus*), then simply interchange the other endings from *dominus*. The other endings are those you have just learned with *dominus*.

	SINGULAR	PLURAL
NOMINATIVE	<i>puer</i>	<i>pueri</i>
GENITIVE	<i>pueri</i>	<i>puerorum</i>
DATIVE	<i>puero</i>	<i>pueris</i>
ACCUSATIVE	<i>puerum</i>	<i>pueros</i>
ABLATIVE	<i>puero</i>	<i>pueris</i>

NOUNS OF SECOND DECLENSION (F)

	SINGULAR	PLURAL
NOMINATIVE	<i>signa</i>	<i>signa</i>
GENITIVE	<i>signae</i>	<i>signarum</i>
DATIVE	<i>signae</i>	<i>signis</i>
ACCUSATIVE	<i>signa</i>	<i>signa</i>
ABLATIVE	<i>signis</i>	<i>signis</i>

Two things should be noted here. First, the endings are very close to those of *dominus* above. These declensions are like first cousins. Second, note that the endings for nominative and accusative are the same. This holds true for all neuter nouns.

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(Milo O'Hara)

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