

## E. Rhifau - Numbers

1. We always use a singular noun after numbers in Welsh. (In English we only use the singular forms *hundred, thousand, million* etc after numbers).

e.g. saith ci - seven dogs  
naw bachgen - nine boys

2. There are masculine and feminine forms of the numbers 2, 3 and 4. and their use depends on the gender of the noun to which they refer.

e.g. **dau** afal (m) - two apples      **dwy** het (f) - two hats  
**tri** llyfr (m) - three books      **tair** cadair (f) - three chairs  
**pedwar** car(m) - four cars      **pedair** pêl (f) - four balls

3. The numbers '**pump**' (*five*), '**chwech**' (*six*) and '**cant**' (*hundred*) drop the final consonant when they stand immediately in front of a noun.

e.g. **pum** potel - five bottles  
**chwe** llwy - six spoons  
**can** punt - hundred pounds

4. Feminine nouns undergo a Soft Mutation after '**un**' (*one*) (except those nouns which begin with **ll** or **rh**). See S.M. rule 2.

e.g. un **g**ath - un **f**raich  
un **l**lwy - un **b**unt

5. Masculine nouns after '**dau**' (*two*) and feminine nouns after '**dwy**' (*two*) undergo a Soft Mutation. See S.M. rules 3 and 4.

e.g. dau **g**i (m) - two dogs      dwy **g**ath (f) - two cats  
dau **d**ŷ (m) - two houses      dwy **b**ont (f) - two bridges

6. Masculine nouns undergo an Aspirate Mutation after '**tri**' (*three*)  
See A.M. rule 1.

e.g. tri **ch**ar - three cars      tri **th**ŷ - three houses  
tri **ch**ap - three caps      tri **ph**lentyn - three children

There is no mutation after '**tair**', the feminine form for '**three**'.

7. All nouns, masculine and feminine undergo an Aspirate Mutation after '**chwe**'. See *A.M. rule 2*.

e.g.	chwe <b>cheiniog</b>	-	chwe <b>ch</b> adair
	chwe <b>ph</b> lentyn	-	chwe <b>ph</b> unt
	chwe <b>th</b> p	-	chwe <b>th</b> eise

8. (a) '**deg**' (ten) becomes '**deng**' before '**m**'  
 '**deuddeg**' (twelve) becomes '**deuddeng**' before '**m**'  
 '**pymtheg**' (fifteen) becomes '**pymtheng**' before '**m**'

e.g.	deng mlynedd	-	ten years
	deuddeng munud	-	twelve minutes
	pymtheng mis	-	fifteen months

- (b) '**blynedd**' (year) becomes '**mlynedd**' after many numbers although these numbers do not cause any other words to mutate nasally.

e.g.	5	-	pum mlynedd	7	-	saith mlynedd
	8	-	wyth mlynedd	9	-	naw mlynedd
	10	-	deng mlynedd	12	-	deuddeng mlynedd
	15	-	pymtheng mlynedd	18	-	deunaw mlynedd
	20	-	ugain mlynedd	50	-	hanner can mlynedd
	100	-	can mlynedd			

9. When giving someone's age, whether male or female, remember to use the feminine forms '**ddwy**' (two), '**tair**' (three) and '**pedair**' (four) which refer to the number of years, which is a feminine noun in Welsh.

e.g. Mae hi'n **ddwy** oed.  
 - She's two years old / of age.

Roedd Gwyn yn **bedair** oed ddoe.  
 - Gwyn was four years old / of age yesterday.

10. It is also possible to convey plurals by using a **number** followed by '**o**' followed again by the **plural form** of the noun.

e.g.	tri o blant	-	three children
	deg o geir	-	ten cars

In order to use this method of counting, it must be remembered that

- (a) 'o' causes a Soft Mutation *see s.m. rule10.*
- (b) the plural form of the noun must be used. This can cause a problem as plural forms are irregular and do not follow any particular pattern.