

## 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 **gath** - un **fraich**  
un llwy - un **bunt**
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**þ (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 c**har - three cars      **tri t**hþ - three houses  
**tri c**hap - three caps      **tri p**h<sup>l</sup>entyn - 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>chadair</b>
	chwe <b>phlentyn</b>	-	chwe <b>phunt</b>
	chwe <b>thþ</b>	-	chwe <b>theise</b>

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 '**dwy**' (**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.