

There are four genders in English language :

1. Masculine Gender – Nouns which signify male people or animals are called masculine gender nouns. e.g. – man, boy, king, father, lion, etc.
2. Feminine Gender – Nouns which signify female people or animals are called feminine gender nouns. e.g. – woman, girl, mother, cow, lioness, etc.
3. Common Gender – These are noun words which can be used for both, male and female people or animals. e.g. – teacher, child, student, servant, friend, etc.
4. Neuter Gender – Those nouns which signify non-living things. e.g. – pen, book, table, tree, hair, etc.

Rules of Forming Feminine Gender From Masculine Gender

Rule 1. Feminine gender is formed by changing the word. e.g. –

Masculine Gender	Feminine Gender	Masculine Gender	Feminine Gender
boy	girl	brother	sister
father	mother	uncle	aunt
nephew	niece	son	daughter
husband	wife	cock	hen
dog	bitch	drone	bee
gentleman	lady	king	queen
sir	madam	wizard	witch
bull	cow	lad	lass
horse	mare		

Rule 2. Some feminine gender words are formed by adding 'ess' at the end of masculine gender. e.g.

Masculine Gender	Feminine Gender	Masculine Gender	Feminine Gender
author	authoress	heir	heiress
lion	lioness		

Rule 3. Some feminine gender words are formed by removing last vowel and adding 'ess'. e.g.

Masculine Gender	Feminine Gender	Masculine Gender	Feminine Gender
actor	actress	hunter	huntress
tiger	tigress	seamster	seamstress

Rule 4. Some feminine gender words are formed by randomly adding 'ess' or 'ss' or 's' in the masculine gender words. e.g.

Masculine Gender	Feminine Gender	Masculine Gender	Feminine Gender
emperor	empress	master	mistress

Rule 5. Some feminine gender words are not formed by any of the above rules. e.g.

Masculine Gender	Feminine Gender	Masculine Gender	Feminine Gender
bridegroom	bride	hero	heroine
widower	widow		

Rule 6. Some feminine gender words are formed by changing beginning or end words of masculine gender words. e.g.

Masculine Gender	Feminine Gender	Masculine Gender	Feminine Gender
grandfather	grandmother	manservant	maidservant
peacock	peahen	washerman	washerwoman
step-son	step-daughter	milkman	milkmaid

Feminine Genders of Some Important Masculine Genders

Masculine Gender	Feminine Gender	Masculine Gender	Feminine Gender
man	woman	god	goddess
he-goat	she-goat	buck	doe
peacock	peahen	Mr	Mrs
wizard	witch	Sir	Madam
gentleman	lady	host	hostess
emperor	empress	poet	poetess
male	female	sportsman	sportswoman
king	queen	prince	princess
widower	widow	lord	lady
bride-groom	bride	hero	heroine
fox	vixen	monk	nun
he	she	stag	hind