**SPELLING RULES**

1. In compound words

**a. The words that are names of "Road" [Yol] [transportation] are written seperately.**

    Çevre yolu = peripheral highway

    Kara yolu   = Highway

    Deniz yolu  = Seaway, Sea route.

    Hava yolu   = Airway, Air route.

**b**. **Space objects  that are in compound form must be written seperately;**

Çoban Yıldızı = lodestar

Kutup Yıldızı = polar star

Kuy­ruklu Yıldız = stray comet

gök taşı  =  Meteorite

**c.** Organ names in body that are in compound forms must be written**seperately.**

elmacık kemiği;

serçe parmak,

şehadet par­mağı

yüzük parmağı

azı dişi,

köpek dişi,

süt dişi;

kuyruk sokumu,

safra kesesi;

**d.** Some time expressions that are in compound forms must be written**seperately**;

gece yarısı --> midnight

gün or­tası  ---> midday

hafta başı ----> begining of the week [the first day of the week]

hafta sonu ----> weekend

2 . The intensified [over emphasized] words must be written **as One word.**

Dümdüz --->**Very** straight [Straight ahead]

çırılçıplak ---> starkers [naked as a jaybird]

sapsarı  ---> ***Very*** yellow

kapkara  ----> jet black, Very black

büsbütün ------> altogether, entirely

3. The copulative verbs [ idi, imiş, ise ] can be written **seperately as well as one word [suffixed to the word ]**

**a**. When they suffixed to the words that end with a consonant the vowel "i" drops and follows the vowel harmony ;

yorgun-du (yorgun idi)  ---> He/she/it  was tired.

güzel-miş [güzel imiş] -----> [I heard that, I was told that ] he/she/ it was beautiful.

gelir-se (gelir ise)  ----> If  he/she/it comes

***b***. When they suffixed to the words that end with a vowel they take buffer "y" and "i" in copulative verbs drop and follows the vowel harmony.

sonuncu-y-du (sonuncu idi)

yabancı-y-mış [yabancı imiş]

ne-y-se (ne ise)

4. **" İken "** which is an adverbial form of copulative verb can be attached onto the word or can be written seperately.

a. **when attached onto the word "i" drops ;**

çalışıyor-ken (çalışıyor iken)  ---> while [when] studying

okur-ken (okur iken)           -----> while [when] reading

uyur-ken (uyur iken)

yazar-ken (yazar iken)

geliyor-ken (geliyor iken)

öğretmen-ken (öğretmen iken)

What about baş-? It has an independent meaning ´head´ but it is often written as one word in compounds like

                    başbakan

                    başkent

                    başparmak

and there is even no POSS in the end.

**5**. When infinitives that end with**-me,-ma**takes ***-a / -e, -ı / -i***  suffixes, the buffer ***"y"*** comes between them.

çalışma-y-a

darılma-y-ı

kalaylama-y-a

okuma-y-a

görme-y-i

gülme-y-i

sevme-y-e

silme-y-iâ

**VOWELS OF TURKISH**

There are eight vowels in Turkish.  
They are divided into two groups:

* The A-UnDotted Vowels: **A I O U**
* The Dotted Vowels are produced at the the front of the mouth similar to French pronounciation.
* The E-Dotted Vowels: **E İ Ö Ü**
* The UnDotted Vowels are produced nearer the throat as in English.

**Vowel Harmony A-E**

To form plurals we have a choice to add either -lar or -ler to the word:

The Plural Suffix is chosen from -ler or -lar to mirror the final vowel of its noun.

All other suffixes containing a or e follow this Vowel Harmony rule:

Plural of the Turkish A-UnDotted Vowel Group -lar

The plural suffix is -lar to words whose final vowel is one of the A-UnDotted Vowels

* Final vowel -a:  
  balta axe → baltalar [balta-lar] axes
* Final vowel -ı:  
  kapı door → kapılar [kapı-lar] doors
* Final vowel -o:  
  palto overcoat → paltolar [palto-lar] overcoats
* Final vowel -u:  
  boncuk bead → boncuklar [boncuk-lar] beads

#### **Plural of the Turkish E-Dotted Vowel Group**

The plural suffix -ler to words whose final vowel is one of the **E-Dotted Vowels**

* Final vowel -e:  
  ev house → evler [ev-ler] houses
* Final vowel -i:  
  kedi cat → kediler [kedi-ler] cats
* Final vowel -ö:  
  göz eye → gözler [göz-ler] eyes
* Final vowel -ü:  
  ödül award, prize → ödüller [ödül-ler] awards

This echoing of the final vowel by the suffix is called Vowel Harmony.

**Exceptions to Turkish Vowel Harmony Rules**

There are a very few exceptions to this rule where the suffix does not echo Vowel Harmony exactly as examples:

saat hour, clock → saatler hours, clocks

harf letter (of alphabet) → harfler letter (alph.)

All exceptions to the rule of pluralizing nouns in Turkish also constitute exceptions when other suffixes are attached to them.

The word rol rôle becomes roller roles. This contrary to the general rule.

These words like rol also constitute exceptions when case suffixes are attached, as follows:

Bu rolü [rol-ü] almak istiyorum.  
I want to take (on) the is rôle.

Bu rolden [rol-den] çok bıktım.  
I am really fed up with this rôle.

Bu rolde [rol-de] bir sürü aksaklık var.  
There is something wrong in this rôle.

Bu role [rol-e] hiç alışamadım.  
I could not get used to this rôle at all.

*Some Suffixed Exceptions*

kalp heart

kalpler hearts

kalbi heart (obj.)

kalbin of the heart

kalbe to the heart

kalpten from the heart

harf Letter (alpha.)

harfler Letters

harfi Letter (obj.)

harfin of the letter

harfe to the letter

harften from the letter

There are other words from Arabic or foreign imported words which exhibit this irregularity.

### Vowel Harmony of Turkish Suffixes

All words with their last vowel in the **A-UnDotted Group** take -lar as their plural.

This rule applies for all suffixes which contain a.

Those words with an **E-Dotted Group Vowel** take -ler as their plural.

This rule applies for all suffixes which contain e.

Common and important words which are in constant use: in, on, at, from, to, with, etc. are suffixes in Turkish.

They must harmonize with final vowel of the word they modify.

### Turkish Static Position (locative) Suffix

The static location suffix -de/-da in, on, at

This suffix t shows concrete place (location):

The plural adds two suffixes -ler + -de or -lar + -da and tagged them altogether to make one word in Turkish.

* adamda on the man  
  [adam-da]
* adamlarda on the men  
  [adam-lar-da]
* kedide on the cat  
  [kedi-de]
* kedilerde on the cats  
  [kedi-ler-de]
* evde at home  
  [ev-de]
* evlerde at the houses  
  [ev-ler-de]
* kapıda at the door  
  [kapı-da]
* kapılarda at/by the doors  
  [kapı-lar-da]
* köprüde on the bridge  
  [köprü-de]
* köprülerde on the bridges  
  [köprü-ler-de]
* odada in the room  
  [oda-da]
* odalarda in the rooms  
  [oda-lar-da]
* Odadayım.   
  I am in the room.  
  [oda-da-yım]
* Ali bey, evdeymiş.  
  Ali bey must be at home.  
  [ev-de-ymiş]
* Bahçedeki çocuklar top ile oynuyorlar.   
  The children (who are) in the garden are playing with a ball.  
  [Bahçe-deki]
* For animate subjects the verb tense suffix must agree:  
  Both the subject and the verb are singular or both subject and verb are plural.
* Çocuklar oynuyorlar. The children are playing.  
  [subject children is animate so verb is also plural.]
* For inanimate subjects, the verb should be always singular.
* Yapraklar düşüyor. Leaves are falling.  
  [subject leaves is inanimate so verb is singular.]

#### **Turkish Motion Away (ablative) Suffix -den -dan**

The motion away suffix -den/-dan from, by, via, through

* adamdan from the man  
  [adam-dan]
* adamlardan from the men  
  [adamlar-da]
* kediden from the cat  
  [kedi-den]
* kedilerden from the cats  
  [kediler-den]
* evden from home  
  [ev-den]
* evlerden from the houses  
  [evler-den]
* kapıdan from the door  
  [kapı-dan]
* kapılardan from the doors  
  [kapılar-dan]
* köprüden from the bridge  
  [köprü-den]
* köprülerden from the bridges  
  [köprüler-den]
* odadan from the room  
  [oda-dan]
* odalardan from the rooms  
  [odalar-dan]