

## 3.12 - Czech Counting Rule

When you are counting objects, the rule for which form you need is as follows:

### **1 (*jeden, jedna, jedno*)**

With the number 1, you will use the singular of a noun. Make sure it agrees with the gender and case of the noun!

*Dám si jednu kávu.*

‘I’ll have one coffee.’

*Tady je jenom jedno okno.*

‘There is only one window here.’

*Znám tady jednoho profesora.*

‘I know one professor here.’

### **2-4**

When you have **2**, **3**, or **4** of something, follow it by the normal plural forms of the noun.

*Tady jsou dva studenti.*

‘There are two students here.’

*Mám dva dobré kamarády.*

‘I have two good friends.’

### **5+**

The numbers 5 and above are followed by the genitive plural in Czech.

*Mám pět dobrých knih.*

‘I have five good books.’

*Tady je deset nových studentů.*

‘There are ten new students here.’

**\*NOTE\*** - As a final note, you may have noticed that the sentence above used the 3rd person singular form *je*. Typically when numbers 5+ are the subject of the sentence,

they will be used with a 3rd personal singular verb. We already saw this in the phrase *Kolik je hodin?* 'What time is it?' *Je šest hodin* 'It's 6:00'. This rule applies not only to numbers 5+, but also any of the quantity expressions:

<i>málo</i>	few, little
<i>hodně</i>	a lot, much, many
<i>mnoho</i> (bookish)	a lot, much, many
<i>moc</i>	a lot, much, many; too much
<i>spousta</i>	a bunch, a lot
<i>víc, více</i> (bookish)	more
<i>míň, méně</i> (bookish)	less
<i>kolik</i>	how much, how many
<i>několik</i>	a few, several
<i>tolik</i>	so much, so many
<i>dost</i>	enough
<i>trochu</i>	a little

<u>Quantity Word</u>	<u>Form of Noun</u>	<u>Form of Verb</u>
<b>1</b>	<b>singular</b>  jedna hodina jeden profesor	<b>singular</b>  <b>Je</b> jedna hodina.  <b>Je</b> tady jeden profesor.
<b>2-4</b>	<b>plural</b>  dva profesoři dvě knihy	<b>plural</b>  <b>Jsou</b> tady dva profesoři.  Na stole <b>jsou</b> tři knihy.
<b>5+</b> <b>quantity words</b> like <i>hodně, mnoho, moc, kolik, několik</i> , etc.	<b>genitive plural</b>  pět studentů šest hodin několik knih	<b>*singular verb*</b>  <b>Je</b> tady pět studentů.  <b>Je</b> šest hodin.  Na stole <b>je</b> několik knih.