# 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:

*málo* few, little

*hodně* a lot, much, many

*mnoho* (bookish) a lot, much, many

*moc* a lot, much, many; too much

*spousta* a bunch, a lot

*víc*, *více* (bookish) more

*míň*, *méně* (bookish) less

*kolik* how much, how many

*několik* a few, several

*tolik* so much, so many

*dost* enough

*trochu* a little

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