

Basic Noun Declension

This is the fundamental paradigm. However, there are many nouns and adjectives that have certain case forms, etc., which are different; these must be learnt, and will be given in any good dictionary.

Masculine Nouns

	<i>Indefinite</i>	<i>Definite</i>
Singular		
<i>Nominative/Accusative</i>	bàrd mòr	am bàrd mòr
<i>Genitive</i>	bàird mhòir	a' bhàird mhòir
<i>Dative</i>	bàrd mòr	a' bhàrd mhòr
<i>Vocative</i>	a bhàird mhòir!	
Plural		
<i>Nominative/Accusative</i>	bàird mhòra	na bàird mhòra
<i>Genitive</i>	bhàrd mòra	nam bàrd mòra
<i>Dative</i>	bàird mhòra	na bàird mhòra
<i>Vocative</i>	a bhàrda mòra!	

Feminine Nouns

	<i>Indefinite</i>	<i>Definite</i>
Singular		
<i>Nominative/Accusative</i>	cluas mhòr	a' chluas mhòr
<i>Genitive</i>	cluaise mòire	na cluaise mòire
<i>Dative</i>	cluais mhòir	a' chluais mhòir
<i>Vocative</i>	a chluas mhòr!	
Plural		
<i>Nominative/Accusative</i>	cluasan mòra	na cluasan mòra
<i>Genitive</i>	chluasan mòra	nan cluasan mòra
<i>Dative</i>	cluasan mòra	na cluasan mòra
<i>Vocative</i>	a chluasa mòra!	

Points to remember:

- In the genitive singular of feminine nouns, the final -e is often dropped, especially with polysyllabic nouns. Adjectives accompanying feminine nouns in the genitive singular are often put in the dative case form (e.g. **na cluaise mhòir** instead of **na cluaise mòire**) in speech and informal writing.
- The genitive plural must end broad. It takes the form of the nominative singular or nominative plural, whichever ends broad. If both end broad (e.g. **craobh**, **craobhan**) then either may be used. The only exception is **daoine**.
- In the plural, lenition of adjectives only occurs when the noun ends slender.