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בְּנוֹת

בְּנוֹת : Gender and Number

The noun בְּנוֹת ends in ׀וֹת, which is usually a feminine plural suffix.

MORPHOLOGY

Remember that while ׀וֹת is usually suffixed to feminine nouns, some masculine nouns also have plurals ending in ׀וֹת; e.g.,

אָב	→	אָבוֹת	father(s)
חֵלֹם	→	חֵלְמוֹת	dream(s)
מִזְבֵּחַ	→	מִזְבְּחוֹת	altar(s)

If we remember having learned the masculine noun בֵּן, "son," we might think that בְּנוֹת is its plural. The plural of בֵּן is בָּנִים, however, and so בְּנוֹת must be something else.

בְּנוֹת is in fact the plural of בַּת, "daughter," the feminine counterpart to בֵּן.

MORPHOLOGY

בָּנוֹת is an irregular plural; that is to say, the differences between the singular form בַּת and the plural form בָּנוֹת cannot be predicted. We simply have to know that the latter is the plural of the former.

MORPHOLOGY

Observe the morphological resemblance between the semantically similar words בָּנִים, "sons," and בָּנוֹת, "daughters," which differ only with respect to their endings.

Summary

בָּנוֹת is feminine in gender and plural in number