



# Replacive Allomorphs

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# What is a replacive allomorph?

- ▶ A replacive allomorph is the **infix** that is inserted within the word. And because the infixes can be found only with some irregular noun plurals and irregular past and past participle of verbs, the replacive allomorphs are allomorphs of inflectional morphemes.
- ▶ Ex: **goose geese** (there is a replacive allomorph in (geese) / i:/ which is one of the allomorphs of the (-s pl) morpheme)
- ▶ Ex: **speak spoke** ( the replacive allomorph /əʊ/ is one of the allomorphs of the (-ed pt) morpheme.



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- Replacive allomorphs are morphologically conditioned. It means that choosing a replacive allomorph from the different allomorphs of the same morpheme depends on a specific morpheme.
  - Ex: **man** .... **men** (the morpheme(man) requires the use of this replacive allomorph to be made plural)
  - **Break** .... **Broke** (the morpheme(break) determines the use of this replacive allomorph to be made past)





Q/ identify the allomorphs of the –s pl morpheme in the words (mice, bags, sheep, hats, women), then say whether these allomorphs are phonologically or morphologically conditioned.

- The answer:
- Mice ... **a replacive allomorph** (morphologically conditioned)
- Bags.... **/z/** (phonologically conditioned)
- Sheep... **∅** (morphologically conditioned)
- Hats.....**/s/** (phonologically conditioned)
- Women.... **a replacive allomorph** (morphologically conditioned)

