Noun Pluralization and Rules of Shewa

1) No change to the stem
- Singular has 1 syllable and unchangeable long vowel.
- Singular has 2 syllables:
  - First syllable has vocal Shewa or Hateph Pathach. Second syllable has unchangeable long vowel.
  - Just add the plural ending

2) Propretonic reduction
- Singular has 2 syllables. Accent on the last syllable. Qamets or Tsere in the first syllable.
  - Add the plural ending and reduce the vowel in the first syllable (propretonic).
    - If under a guttural, the propretonic vowel reduces to Hateph pathach (ו').
    - Otherwise, the propretonic vowel reduces to vocal shewa.

3) Segholate nouns
- Singular has 2 syllables, with the accent on the first syllable.
  - Add the plural ending, reduce the vowel in the first syllable (propretonic), and change the vowel in the second syllable to a Qamets.
    - If under a guttural, the propretonic vowel reduces to Hateph pathach (ו').
    - Otherwise, the propretonic vowel reduces to vocal shewa.

4) Geminate nouns
- Singular has 1 syllable, does NOT have an unchangeable long vowel, and the last consonant was originally doubled.
  - Add the plural ending and bring back the doubled consonant.
    - If the final consonant of the singular can take a Dagesh, then add a Dagesh.
      - If the first syllable has a changeable long vowel, shorten it:
        - Tsere (ו') → Hireq (ו)
        - Holem (ו') → Qibbuts (ו')
        - Qamets (ו') → Pathach (ו')
      - If the final consonant of the singular cannot take a Dagesh (i.e., א ע ח ה ר), then lengthen the vowel.

5) Irregular pluralization
- When learning a noun as a vocabulary item, check its plural. If the plural is irregular, then memorize it.

Rules of Shewa
- Two shewas in a row:
  - End of word: Both silent (ו•ו•)
  - Middle of word: First silent and second vocal. (ו•ו')
  - Beginning of word: First becomes Hireq and second becomes silent shewa (ו•ו'), except:
    - If second consonant is yod, turn them into Hireq yod (ו•י')
  - Beginning of word with shewa followed by guttural with reduced vowel:
    - Shewa becomes the short vowel that corresponds to the reduced vowel. (ו•ו' → ו•ו'; ו•ו' → ו•ו')
    - Except that for the word אֱלֹהִים, the shewa becomes tsere and the aleph quiesces (לֶאְלֹ ... ו•ו')