

Personal Numerals

This set of numbers only works with people. They can be used by themselves, but if one uses a noun after these numerals, it should be in the genitive plural as these number-words are nouns, too.

As a reminder, to calculate the genitive plural of a noun, we have to think about the nominative plural. These fall into three groups:

	nominative singular		nominative plural		genitive plural
1. Slenderization	bodach	→	bodaich	→	bodach
2. Short suffix (-an,-ean)	ubhal	→	ubhalan	→	ubhal or ubhalan
3. Long suffix (-aichean)	ogha	→	oghaichean	→	oghaichean

Note: If we use a noun after the personal numerals, we must lenite it.

If adjectives are used, use the lenited plural form.

aonar (fir.)	This is only used in the following way: Bha mi nam aonar. \ I was alone.
dithis (boir.)	mhac
triùir (boir.)	chloinne (singular collective noun!)
ceathrar (fir.)	bhrèagha
còignear (fir.)	fhear
sianar (fir.)	nighean
seachdnar (fir.)	dhaoine
ochdnar (fir.)	chroitearan
naoinear (fir.)	Albannaich
deichnear (fir.)	bhoireannach

Sources and Further Reading:

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- Ó Maolalaigh, Roibeard, Scottish Gaelic in Twelve Weeks, 2008, p. 148 (Personal Numerals), p. 108 (The Genitive Plural).
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Notaichean dhomhsa

ACA03-02 (Personal Numerals)

ACI11-02 (Genitive Plural)

Appendix: Some People-Related Noun Forms

nominative		genitive	
singular	plural	singular	plural
màthair	màthraichean	màthar	màthraichean
piuthar	peathraichean	peathar	peathraichean
nighean	nigheannan	nighinn	nigheannan
seanmhair	seanmhairean	seanmhar	seanmhairean
bean	mnathan	mnà	ban
antaidh	antaidhean	antaidh	antaidhean
boireannach	boireannaich	boireannaich	boireannach
cailleach	cailleachan	cailliche	cailleachan
athair	athraichean	athar	athraichean
bràthair	bràithrean	bràthar	bràithrean
mac	mic	mic	mac
seanair	seanairean	seanar	seanairean
duine	daoine		daoine
uncail	uncailean	uncail	uncailean
bodach	bodaich	bodaich	bodach
clann	—	cloinne (use na cloinne - collective feminine noun).	
ogha	oghaichean		oghaichean
co-ogha	co-oghaichean		co-oghaichean
leanabh	leanabhan	leinibh	leanabhan
pàiste	pàistean		pàistean
balach	balaich	balaich	balach
gille	gillean		gillean