# Italian Nouns 1.1
A plug-in module for the 'Verbs & Nouns' language-learning program.

## Chapter 1:   Introduction.

Features.

'Italian Nouns' helps Macintosh users to learn and practise the 20 different ways of forming the plural of Italian nouns, and the seven different forms of 'the'.   You can use it for looking up words and practising vocabulary.   The module already contains more than 2000 Italian nouns, with English translations.   You can add extra nouns, and change or delete existing entries to suit your own needs.   You can create special groups of nouns for practising on, such as nouns that end in a particular way, or nouns on one topic.

This module doesn't contain any pre-recorded sounds, but the program allows you to record and play back the pronunciation of particular words, to listen to words and type what you hear.

System requirements.

To use the module you need to have the parent program 'Verbs & Nouns' (version 1.5 or later).   Earlier versions of 'Verbs & Nouns' are not compatible.   You can download the latest version of 'Verbs & Nouns'.   Current addresses are: <ftp://ftp.pht.com//mac/pht/v/>   or <http://archive.pht.com/pub/mac/pht/v/>).

To use the parent program 'Verbs & Nouns' you need System 7.x.x, and at least 2250K of available memory (2700K is better).   Install the 'Verbs & Nouns' application program on your hard disk.   Version 1.5 and its manual occupy 1.9 Mb of hard disk space, and the 'Italian Nouns' module occupies a further 1 Mb.

Opening the module.

Before you open the module, please check to see that the database file called 'Italian Nouns 1.1' and a separate file called 'Italian Nouns 1.1 keys' are in the same folder.   The first time you open the module, the easiest way is to double-click the icon for 'Italian Nouns 1.1'.

If you are using an unregistered copy of the 'Verbs & Nouns' program, only 59 nouns will be visible.   There are also some ready-made 'groups' of nouns.   You will be able to see up to 21 words in each group.   WARNING:   until your copy of 'Verbs & Nouns' is registered, you are advised not to make changes to ready-made 'groups'.   Making changes will have the effect of deleting any 'hidden' nouns that the group contains.   If you do this by accident, you may want to download a fresh copy of the 'Italian Nouns' module.


Balloon Help.

There is Balloon Help for some items.   You'll find it by pulling down the Help menu near the right-hand end of the Menu bar.


Tutorial.

Chapters 2 and 3 of this manual are a guided tour of the two principal windows.   If you're already familiar with a recent version of the 'Verbs & Nouns' parent program, you may not need to bother with these chapters.

The tutorial explains the particular features of the 'Italian Nouns' module.   If you follow it step-by-step, you'll get a reasonable idea of what the program and the module are about, and you'll learn how to use it for practising plural forms, the seven forms of 'the' in Italian, and translations.

This manual is to help you get started with minimum trouble, but it doesn't contain all the answers.   In particular, it doesn't contain information about using sound.   There's a more sophisticated manual in the 'Read Me' for the parent program 'Verbs & Nouns'.   If something isn't explained in this manual, you'll need to study that one.


The contents of this manual.

Chapter 1:   Introduction (this chapter).

Chapter 2:   The Browse Window.


2.1

Opening the Italian Nouns module.


2.2

A tour of the Browse Window.

4.2

Changing existing translations.

4.3

Deleting an Italian word from the module.

4.4

Adding new entries, and using the 'rules'.

4.5

Adding a word - an example.

4.6

Adding defective words.

4.7

Tuning and compacting the database.

4.8

A safety-first suggestion for when you start making changes.

4.9

The Rules Manager.

Chapter 5:   Translations:   Things to think about when you enter new translations.

Viewing this manual on the screen.

If your screen is large enough, you can read this manual on screen while the 'Italian Nouns' module is open.   You can squash this window, or expand it, to fit the space available on your screen.   Use the size-box at the bottom right-hand corner.   You need 400K of available

memory to run the manual, as well as 2250K-2700K to run 'Verbs & Nouns'.


Printing this manual, or part of it.

To print one or more complete chapters from this manual, pull down the manual's File menu and choose Print....   If you are presented with a Page Set-up dialog box, click OK in that box even if you do not make any changes.   This produces another dialog box where you can specify which chapter or chapters you want to print.   Select the chapters you want to print, and click OK.

Alternatively you can export the entire text of the manual and use your usual word-processing program to isolate particular sections and print them separately for quick reference.   To export the text of the manual, pull down the manual's File menu and choose Output Text....


Finding things in this manual.

The manual has a 'Find' feature.   Pull down the manual's File menu and choose Find....


Backup copies.

It's wise to have a backup copy of the module.   If your Mac crashes while the module is open, the module may be damaged.   You should be able to get a fresh copy from wherever you got your first copy, but it won't contain any changes you have made.   You need backup copies of two separate files.   They are called 'Italian Nouns 1.1'   and 'Italian Nouns 1.1 keys'.   If you just duplicate the two files the Mac adds 'copy' to the end of both names, and to open the module you will need to delete 'copy' and the space that precedes it, or move the word 'keys' so that it follows 'copy'.   To avoid this problem:
• use the Save a Copy As... feature on the program's File menu;   or
• put the two files into a folder and get the operating system to duplicate the whole folder; or
• copy them to a floppy disk.


Registration.

You can gain access to all the nouns in the module by registering the 'Verbs & Nouns' program.   Registered users of an earlier program called 'Italian Verbs' are also licensed to use 'Verbs & Nouns'.   No extra fee is required for using the 'Italian Nouns' module.

The registration fee for a non-transferable licence for a single user of 'Verbs & Nouns' is US $10 (or the equivalent in your local currency).   If you want to use the program in a language lab or over a network then the site licence for all computers within your network is US $195. Registered users will receive free upgrades.   You can send cash, money order (except a postal money order that is valid only in your own country), postal transfer, banker's draft or cashier check (no Eurochecks please).   American personal checks can sometimes be cashed - but not always - so use this method as a last resort.   Send your payment to Jacek Iwanski, the author of 'Verbs & Nouns':

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tel. +48/77/212237
e-mail. jiwanski@alpha.luc.ac.be

Please include your email address with your payment so the registration code can be sent to you promptly.


English translations.

The module is basically in British English.   This version also contains American spellings, and   equivalent American English words.   Differences in word choice between British English and American English are identified like this:   'pantaloni,   trousers (UK), pants (US)'.



Questions and problems.

If you have questions about the operation of the program please contact the author of the program, Jacek Iwanski:   <jiwanski@alpha.luc.ac.be>.

If you have questions about the contents of the module or the contents of this manual, please contact the author of the module,   Adrienne Forbes: <dandaforbes@netmatters.co.uk>.


Author's acknowledgements.

It gives me much pleasure to express my appreciation of the patient and generous help given to me by Jacek Iwanski throughout the preparation of this module, including making alterations to the parent program to adapt it for the particular needs of nouns in Italian.   My teacher (who shall remain anonymous, as she must bear no blame for any mistakes that survive), responded nobly to a barrage of questions about the proper treatment of interesting but sometimes obscure nouns.   I owe a debt which it is a pleasure to record to Robert Hard for his encouragement and support after the release of the first version of the module, and for his contribution of numerous American terms that have made the present version more useful to American-speaking users.   My brother Steve Kirkby kindly tested Chapters 1-4 of this manual:   he has much experience of wrestling with manuals and an almost total ignorance of Italian, a combination which made him an excellent guinea pig.   I am grateful to him for the improvements that resulted.



The tutorial starts in Chapter 2, which provides a tour of the Browse window and deals with the Find and Groups features.   To open Chapter 2, press âŒ˜2 or pull down the Contents menu on the manual's menu bar and choose the next chapter.