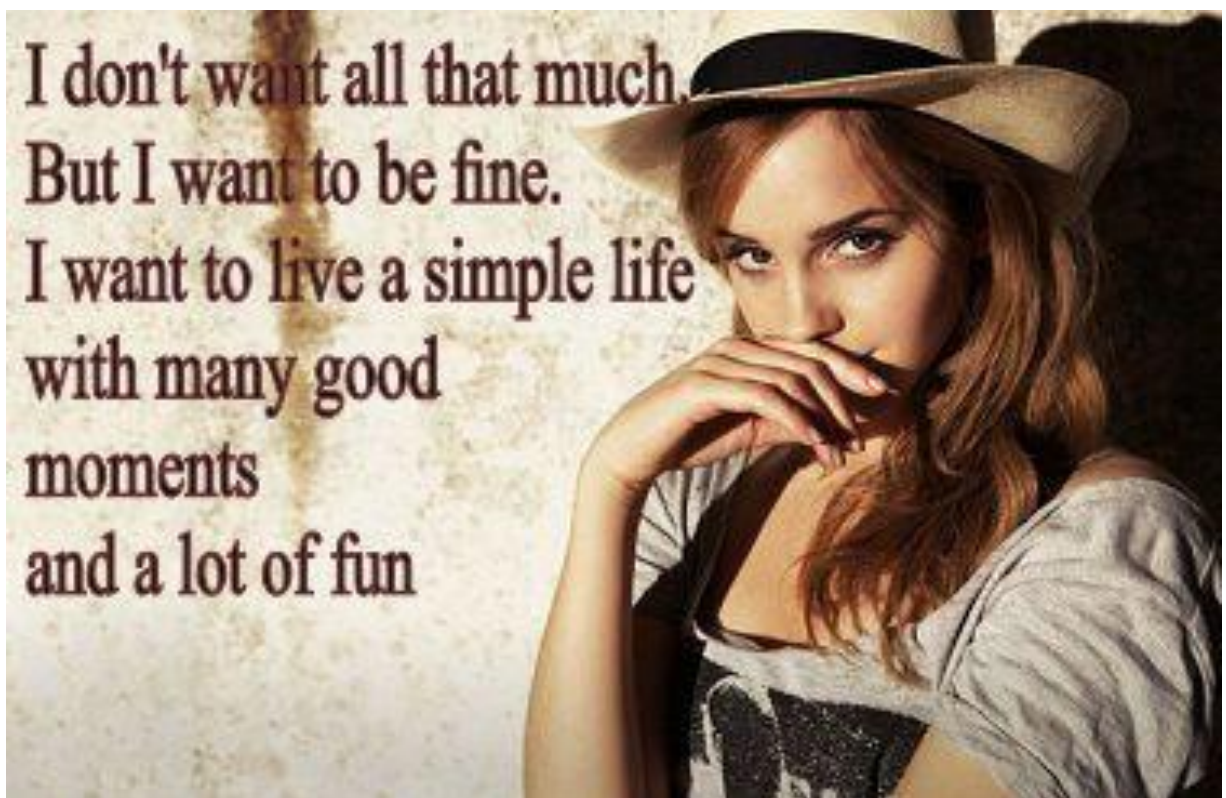


Much, many, a lot of  
few, little



I don't want all that much.  
But I want to be fine.  
I want to live a simple life  
with many good  
moments  
and a lot of fun

# I think a lot, but I don't say much.

Anne Frank

quote fancy

## A lot of/ lots of/ much/ many

English With Life

**A lot of and lots of** are used with both plural countable and uncountable nouns. They are normally used in affirmative sentences. The of is omitted when a lot/ lots are followed by a noun.

**E.g.-** (1). There're **a lot/ lots of** apples in the fridge. (2) I like football **a lot**.

**Much and many** are usually used in negative and interrogative sentences. Much is used with uncountable nouns and many is used with plural countable nouns.

**E.g.-** (1). There aren't **many** good restaurants in this city.

(2). Did you spend **much** money at the shopping mall?

**How much and how many** are mainly used in questions.

How much + uncountable nouns → quantity/ amount/ price

How many + countable nouns → quantity/ amount/ number

**E.g.-** (1). **How much** sugar would you like in your coffee?

(2). **How much** is that painting? (3). **How many** days are there in January?



**Too much** is used with uncountable nouns. It has a negative meaning and shows that there is more of something than is wanted or needed.

**E.g. -** (1). I think I ate **too much** food.



**Too many** is used with plural countable nouns. It has the same negative meaning as too much.

**E.g. –** The train was very crowded. There were **too many** people there.



	Affirmative	Interrogative	Negative
Countable nouns	a lot (of) lots (of)	(how) many	many
Uncountable nouns	a lot (of) lots (of)	(how) much	much

few a few  
a little little



◆ We use **a few/few** with plural countable nouns (cars, cassettes, etc.).

**A few** means 'not many, but enough.'

*e.g. We've got **a few** oranges. We can make some juice. (= We've got enough oranges.)*

**Few** means 'hardly any, almost none' and can go with **very** for emphasis.

*e.g. There are **(very) few** biscuits in the box. It is almost empty. (= There are only one or two biscuits.)*

◆ We use **a little/little** with uncountable nouns (ice, honey, flour, etc.).

**A little** means 'not much, but enough.'

*e.g. She's got **a little** time. She can go shopping.*

**Little** means 'hardly any, almost nothing' and can go with **very** for emphasis.

*e.g. We've got **(very) little** coffee. There's not enough for all of us.*

### I. Fill in many, much or a lot of.

1. : I've got ..... spare time today.  
(A. many B. much C. a lot of)  
: Great! Let's go shopping together.
2. : Are there ..... cinemas in this town?  
(A. many B. much C. a lot of)  
: No, there's only one.
3. : There isn't ..... snow on the ground.  
(A. many B. much C. a lot of)  
: No, the sun has melted it.
4. : There are ..... flowers in the garden.  
(A. many B. much C. a lot of)  
: Yes. they're beautiful, aren't they?

5. : How ..... times did you have a shower yesterday?  
(A. many B. much C. a lot of)  
: Three! It was a very hot day.
6. : I've got ..... things to do today.  
(A. many B. much C. a lot of)  
: I'm busy today, too.
7. : There isn't ..... water in that vase. The flowers will die.  
(A. many B. much C. a lot of)  
: I'll put some more in.
8. : Helen is always alone.  
: No she isn't. She's got ..... friends.  
(A. many B. much C. a lot of)
9. : Are there ..... fish in this river?  
(A. many B. much C. a lot of)  
: No, not any more.
10. : Can you lend me some money?  
: No, sorry - I haven't got ..... money with me.  
(A. many B. much C. a lot of)

## Too many / Too much

- ◆ **Too many** can be used with plural countable nouns and has a negative meaning. It shows that there is more of something than is wanted or needed.



There are **too many cars** on the road. We won't get to the reception on time. (= There are so many cars on the road that we won't get to the reception on time.)

- ◆ **Too much** can be used with uncountable nouns and has a negative meaning. It shows that there is more of something than is wanted or needed.



She spent **too much money** last month. She can't pay her bills now. (= She spent so much money last month that she can't pay her bills now.)

## II. Fill in the gaps with too much or too many.

- 1 : If you eat ..... chocolate, you'll get fat.  
(A. too much B. too many)  
: Then I'll only eat a little bit!
- 2 : You bought ..... oranges at the market yesterday.  
(A. too much B. too many)  
: Never mind, we can use some for juice.
- 3 : Don't spend ..... money tonight.  
(A. too much B. too many)  
: I won't. I want to save some for another day.
- 4 : There are ..... flowers in that vase.  
(A. too much B. too many)  
: I know, but I couldn't find another one.

5 : All the students failed the exam.  
: I know. .... of the questions were difficult.  
(A. Too much B. Too many)

6 : How did you spoil the soup?  
: I put ..... salt in it.  
(A. too much B. too many)

7 : I don't like this coffee.  
: Why not?  
: There's ..... sugar in it.  
(A. too much B. too many)

### A few, Few, A little, Little Exercise

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• A few	- countables / positive meaning ⇒	<i>We've got a lettuce and a few tomatoes</i>
• Few	- countables / negative meaning ⇒	<i>Few people in my street recycle their rubbish</i>
• A little	- uncountables / positive meaning ⇒	<i>I normally have a little wine with my lunch</i>
• Little	- uncountables / negative meaning ⇒	<i>I have little time for rude people</i>

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### III. Fill in the gaps with few / a few, little / a little.

1. .... people came to see the play. It was rather sad.  
a) few b) a few c) little d) a little

2. Come on! We've still got ..... time left to finish this.  
a) few b) a few c) little d) a little

3. Jordi gave very ..... reasons for closing down the bar.  
a) few b) a few c) little d) a little

4. With time and ..... patience, you'll forget her and be happy again.  
a) few b) a few c) little d) a little

5. He's not a good teacher. He's unimaginative and has very ..... patience with children.  
a) few b) a few c) little d) a little

6. .... of that group's songs are excellent but I don't really like most of their music.  
a) few   b) a few   c) little   d) a little
7. I've been to that Asturian restaurant ..... times. It's good.  
a) few   b) a few   c) little   d) a little
8. .... people ever learn how to dance properly. It's such a shame.  
a) few   b) a few   c) little   d) a little
9. Very ..... people went to see that film. I don't know why. It's excellent.  
a) few   b) a few   c) little   d) a little
10. I have ..... time for people who talk about themselves all the time and never listen to anyone else.  
a) few   b) a few   c) little   d) a little
11. I normally have ..... red wine with my lunch. It's good for you.  
a) few   b) a few   c) little   d) a little
12. Dress the salad with salt, pepper and ..... olive oil.  
a) few   b) a few   c) little   d) a little
13. I've got 20 Euros and ..... coins. That should be enough for tonight.  
a) few   b) a few   c) little   d) a little
14. His computer needs cleaning. He takes very ..... care of it.  
a) few   b) a few   c) little   d) a little

#### IV. Put the words into correct groups.

[http://gamedata.britishcouncil.org/lep25\\_embed/OTk5NA==/kids](http://gamedata.britishcouncil.org/lep25_embed/OTk5NA==/kids)



V. Click on the words in the right order to make a sentence.

[http://gamedata.britishcouncil.org/lep25\\_embed/OTk5NQ==/kids](http://gamedata.britishcouncil.org/lep25_embed/OTk5NQ==/kids)