Collective Nouns

Some common collective nouns include:

* audience
* band
* class
* club
* committee
* congregation
* family
* gang
* group
* jury
* orchestra
* team

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A collective noun is either singular or plural depending on the way that writer uses it. If the collective noun refers to all members of a group acting in unison, then it is singular. For example:

* The jury reached its verdict unanimously.
* The congregation stands when the minister tells it to stand.

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However, if the collective noun refers to members of a group acting individually, then it is plural. For instance:

* The jury reached their verdicts after days of deliberation.
* The congregation leaves their place of worship at different times: Some leave immediately after communion, whereas others leave an hour later after they have spent time socializing with friends.