

# Possessive Nouns



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# What are possessives?

- Possessives show ownership.
- They show something belongs to someone or something.
- In other words, they “possess” something.
- For example, if we want to show that a book belongs to the boy, it would be stated:

the boy's book

# How might you say these ideas using possessive form?

- The coat belongs to the girl.  
✓ the girl's coat
- The bone belongs to the dog.  
✓ the dog's bone
- The pencil belongs to the teacher.  
✓ the teacher's pencil
- The jump ropes belong to the students.  
✓ the students' jump ropes

# 3 Rules to Make Possessives

- Rule 1:  
To form the possessive of a singular noun, add an apostrophe and s ('s) = **car** = **car's**
- Rule 2:  
To form the possessive of a plural noun ending in **s**, add only an apostrophe (') = **dogs** = **dogs'**
- Rule 3:  
To form the possessive of a plural noun that does not end in **s**, add an apostrophe and s ('s) = **mice** = **mice's**

# Rule 1:

**To form the possessive of a singular noun, add an apostrophe and s ('s)**

- A noun is a person, place, or thing
- “Singular” means that there is only one (when there is more than one, it is called “plural”)
- For example, if the singular noun “cat” has a brush, the possessive form is:

**the cat's brush**

**Let's Practice**

**Singular Possessives**

# The lady owns the coat.

1. The ladies coat

2. The ladys' coat

 3. The lady's coat

# The man has a belt.

1. The mans belt

2. The mans' belt

 3. The man's belt



# Frank owns the boat.

1. Franks boat

 2. Frank's boat

3. Franks' boat

## Rule 2:

**For a plural noun ending in **s**, add only an apostrophe (')**

- A plural noun means there is more than one. For example, “**boy**” is singular and “**boys**” is plural.
- Since one **s** was already added to make this noun plural, a second **s** is not added.
- Example:

the three girls' notebook

**Not:** the three girls's notebook

**Let's Practice**

**Plural Possessives**

# Three ladies own the business.

1. Ladies business

 2. Ladies' business

3. Ladies's business

# The pen belongs to two dogs.

1. The dogs pen

😊 2. The dogs' pen

3. The dog's pen

**Let's Practice**

**both together!**

# The ring belongs to the girl.

1. The girls' ring

 2. The girl's ring

3. The girls ring

# The bike belongs to three boys.

1. The boys's bike

2. The boy's bike

 3. The boys' bike



# The four cooks own the kitchen.

1. The cooks kitchen

 2. The cooks' kitchen

3. The cook's kitchen

# The tools belong to dad.

- 😊 1. Dad's tools
2. Dads' tools
3. Dads tools

Some nouns are made into plurals without adding **s**.

man

men

mouse

mice

child

children

## Rule 3:

For a plural noun that does not end in **s**, add an apostrophe and **s** ('s).

- The cars belong to the men.  
✓ The men's cars
- The cheese belongs to the mice.  
✓ The mice's cheese
- The children own the toys.  
✓ The children's toys

**Let's Practice**

**plural possessives**

# The nest belongs to the mice.

- 😊 1. The mice's nest
2. The mices' nest
3. The mices nest

# The dishes belong to the women.

1. Womens' dishes

 2. Women's dishes

3. Womens's dishes

# The people own the seats.

1. Peoples' seats

2. Peoples seats'

😊 3. People's seats



# Review

- Singular possessive nouns add 's
  - ✓ the man's glove
  - ✓ Joe's hat
- Plural nouns ending in s, add only the apostrophe ' .
  - ✓ the four cats' toy
- Plural nouns that do not end in s, add 's.
  - ✓ the men's cars