

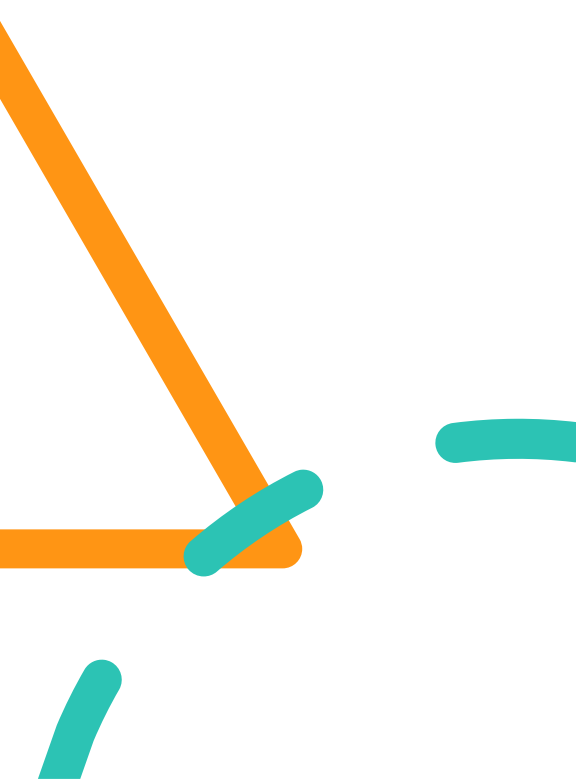
Possession

Introduction to Possession

- Whose football is this? It's my football. It's Mike's football.



Possessive 's: Use and Form

- Informative grammar chart explaining the use and form of possessive 's in English, with rules for singular, plural, and irregular nouns, and examples.
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Possessive 's: Use

- We use 's to show that something belongs to a person (or a pet) or to talk about relationships between people.
- This is Peter's **father**. (Correct)
- This is **the father of** Peter. (Wrong)
- Peter and Mary's car is red.
- My cat's ears are white.
- We also use the possessive 's to talk about shops and houses.
- I am at John's. (= at John's house)
- I need to go to the chemist's. (= the chemist's shop)

Possessive 's: Form

- Singular noun + 's
 - **Anna's** clothes, **Chris's** wife, the **student's** books, etc.
- Plural noun ending in -s + ' (apostrophe)
 - The **students'** books, the **boys'** toys, the **teachers'** lounge, etc.
- Irregular plural noun (NOT ending in -s) + 's
 - The **children's** toys, **men's** clothes, etc.
- When one thing belongs to two or more people, add 's only after the last noun.
 - **Paul and Katherine's** house, **Anna and George's** car, etc.
- When we have two or more people, and each person has one thing, we add 's after each person.
 - **Anna's and George's** cars (Anna's car and George's car), **Sally's and Tim's** computers (Sally's computer and Tim's computer).

Possessive of

- We use **of** and NOT **'s** when we talk about things (and not people or pets).
- the end **of** the street (Correct)
- the street**'s** end (Wrong) !
- a picture **of** the eclipse (Correct)
- the eclipse**'s** picture (Wrong)
- the man **of** the match (Correct)
- the match**'s** man (Wrong)

Compound Nouns

- With nouns that are used together very often, we often use them together without **of** and without **'s**
- a **school bus**
- the **city centre**
- the **car key**

Whose

- When do we use **whose**?
- We use the question word **whose** to ask about possession. There are two possible forms:
- **whose** + noun
 - **Whose** car is this?
 - **Whose** books are those?
- **whose** without a noun
 - **Whose** is this car?
 - **Whose** are those books?
- When we answer with the possessive 's, we can also use 's + noun or 's without a noun.
 - **Whose** is this car?
 - It's John's car
 - It's John's.

Whose vs Who's

- **Whose** = possession (of who)
- **Who's** = who is
- **Whose** car is this? (Correct)
- **Who's** car is this? (Wrong)
- **Who's** that man in the lobby? (Correct)
- **Whose** that man in the lobby? (Wrong)