

Possessive Noun Notes

When you wish to say that someone owns something, you use a *possessive noun*. A possessive noun shows who or what owns something.

Singular nouns showing possession

To form the possessive of a singular noun, add an apostrophe and an -s.

The dog's collar.
The child's toy.
The girl's bicycle.
The queen's crown.
The door's knob.
The table's legs.
The house's shutters.

Plural nouns showing possession

There are two conditions to consider when forming the possessives of plural nouns.

1. If the plural noun ends in s, simply add an apostrophe to the end of the word.

Plural noun	Possessive form
horses	horses'
invaders	invaders'
families	families'
riders	riders'
rulers	rulers'
wolves	wolves'

2. If the plural noun does not end in s, add an apostrophe and an -s.

Plural noun	Possessive form
people	people's
women	women's
children	children's
mice	mice's
group	group's

The odd ball – its.

The possessive form of this pronoun is very unusual since its possessive form does not require an apostrophe. Adding an apostrophe “s” to that pronoun turns that word into the contraction for “it is” (it’s).

Possessive (its)

The cat ate its food.

The sword slipped from its sheath.

The fox left its den.

The car lost its tire.

Contraction (it’s (it is))

It’s freezing outside this morning.

I cannot believe it’s Friday already.

You should not look at the sun because it’s too bright.

It’s hard to become a professional athlete.