

# Possessive apostrophes

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You can use an apostrophe with an **-s** to show who something belongs to. This is called a **possessive apostrophe**. If you possess something, you own it.

You can use a possessive apostrophe after someone's name or after a noun.

These are Olivia's shoes.



Those are my dad's glasses.



If you are talking about more than one person or thing, and the noun you are using ends in **-s**, you just add the apostrophe. You don't add another **s**. Compare these sentences:



The chick's feathers are yellow.

The chicks' feathers are yellow.



Some nouns end in **-ss** even when you are only talking about one person or thing, and some names end in **-s**. These words add **'s** as usual for possession.

Look at the princess's beautiful dress.



James's new train set is amazing!



# Apostrophes

And here's another way to use apostrophes. Lucky you...

## Apostrophes show something belongs

To show possession, you add an apostrophe and an 's' to the owner or the owner's name.

These apostrophes are called apostrophes of possession.



*Eva's rabbit loves carrots.*



*the boy's computer*

The computer that belongs to the boy.

The screen that belongs to the computer.

*the computer's screen*

Even if the word ends in 's', you do the same:



*The cactus's flowers are pink.*

*Marcus's curry was too spicy for him.*



## It's different for groups of people or things

If something belongs to a group of people or things, follow these rules:

- 1 If the plural word ends in an 's', just add an apostrophe.



*Did you see the neighbours' new car?*

The apostrophe after the 's' shows that there's more than one neighbour.

*The babies' outfits always matched.*

- 2 If the plural word doesn't end in an 's', add an apostrophe and an 's'.

*The children's new hula hoops are great.*

Words like 'men' and 'women' are the same — just add an apostrophe and an 's'.



