

How To Use An Apostrophe



What are apostrophes for?

Apostrophes have two uses: possession and omission.

Possession

Possession shows ownership of something.

The apostrophe goes after the owner's name to show possession. If the owner is singular, add an *s* after the apostrophe.
E.g The hat belongs to Jim. *It is Jim's hat.*



However, if the word already ends in an *s*, you don't need to add an *s* after the apostrophe.

E.g *James' dog is friendly.*

This is the same for when the owner is plural.

E.g *The ladies' handbags are green.*

If the plural does not end in an *s*, you still add an apostrophe and the *s*.

E.g *He went to collect the men's coats.*

Warning!

Don't use an apostrophe when you use a possessive pronoun.

E.g *its is her ours yours*

**Apostrophes
DON'T MAKE
nouns plural.**

Omission

Apostrophes are also used when you want to leave out one or more letters. The apostrophe replaces the missing letters or letters. These are called contractions.

you are	→	you're
I am	→	I'm
she has	→	she's
we have	→	we've
will not	→	won't
do not	→	don't

Warning!

Don't confuse *its* and *it's*.

It's is a contraction of *it is* or *it has*.

E.g *It's* sunny outside.

Its is the possessive pronoun.

E.g The cat wants *its* dinner.

