

# Possessive Nouns



- **Possessive noun**—a noun that shows ownership or other relationships  
*Ownership*—**Jack's** Labrador retriever took first place in the dog show.  
*Relationship*—Mai gets a **week's** vacation this year.

Don't confuse plural nouns and possessive nouns. It's easy to do because they both end with an s.

**Possessive Noun**  
a **week's** vacation

**Plural Noun**  
two **weeks** later

**A** Decide whether each word in bold type is a plural or a possessive. Write *Plural* or *Possessive* on the line before each sentence.

*Examples:*    **Possessive:**    The **boy's** coat was lost.  
                  **Plural:**        The **boys** went home.

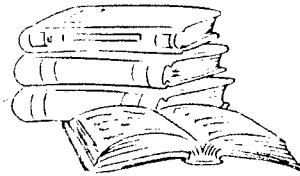
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Several **summers** ago the family went to Florida.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. **Mandy's** softball team practices on Saturday.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. **Saturday's** game was called off due to rain.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. It rained every day of **Earl's** trip to California.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. After two **years** the worker got a promotion.



Both singular and plural nouns can be possessive.

**Singular Possessive**  
the **book's** cover

**Plural Possessive**  
the **books'** covers



Make a singular noun possessive by adding an apostrophe (') and an s.

**Singular**  
goose

**Singular Possessive**  
goose's honk



**B** Make each singular noun possessive by adding 's.

- 1. lady \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. movie \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. puppy \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. man \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. night \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. plant \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. story \_\_\_\_\_
- 8. candy \_\_\_\_\_
- 9. paint \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. Tuesday \_\_\_\_\_
- 11. rose \_\_\_\_\_
- 12. baby \_\_\_\_\_



Make a plural noun that ends in *s* possessive by adding only an apostrophe (').

**Plural**

secretaries

**Plural Possessive**

secretaries' typewriters

When a plural noun does not end in *s*, make it possessive by adding an apostrophe (') and an *s*.

**Plural**

women

**Plural Possessive**

women's clothing

Use an apostrophe in phrases such as *one dollar's worth* or *a week's vacation*. If the word is plural and ends in *s*, just add an apostrophe (').

**Singular Noun**

a dime's worth

**Plural Noun**

three dollars' worth

**C** Circle each possessive noun in these sentences. Identify the possessive noun as singular or plural. Write *Singular* or *Plural* on the line before each sentence.

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1. The monkey's antics made the children laugh.
2. Sunflowers provided seeds to satisfy the cardinals' hunger.
3. Janice always puts in her two cents' worth.
4. The cost of the stamps was \$22, and the envelopes' cost was \$15.
5. The sheep's pasture is about a mile from the house.
6. The children's room needs to be painted.
7. Mrs. Jackson's friends are going shopping for women's clothes.
8. The showcase contained prizes that made people's eyes light up.
9. "There isn't a dime's worth of difference between the two of them," said Mike.
10. The boy's bike was painted dark blue.
11. The carpenter's check was for \$1,640.13, which was two weeks' pay.
12. This Sunday's game will be Sophia's best chance to pitch a no-hitter.