

# Possession

Hello and welcome back to the English lessons, we will now be moving on to the intermediate level. So please make sure you have watched and understand all the beginner lessons before proceeding.



In this lesson we will be exploring possession.  
Possession is when an object or someone or something is owned by a person.

We can write this by following a simple rule:

**PERSON + 'S + THING**

**Apostrophe**



But first let's recap what this is:

This is called an apostrophe and it is used as a punctuation mark. In this case the apostrophe shows who is in possession.

**Form:**

Let's take a look at the rule again: **PERSON + 'S + THING** But first let's recap what this is:

This is called an apostrophe and it is used as a punctuation mark. In this case the apostrophe shows who is in possession.

**Form:**

Let's take a look at the rule again: **PERSON + 'S + THING**

We use this form to express possession or relationship  
when talking about people.

John has a dog. -> That is John's dog.

Other ways of showing possession:



The leg of the chair



The leg of the sheep



## Spelling:

With any grammatical rules spelling can become difficult; here are some rules to help you remember.



*Singular noun* -> My Brother's car.

*Plural noun* -> My parents' house.



*Singular ending in "s" or similar sound* ->

Your boss's office / Alice's book (pronounced: /bɒsɪz/ /æɪsɪz/)



*Plural not ending in "s"* -> The children's room



## The "Person" may be a phrase:

Sometimes the 'person' might have a title or be referred to as someone else, or it might be that the 'person' two persons.



That is the man next door's wife

Paul and Mary's dog

Henry the Eighth's six wives



Watch out:



Paul and Mary's dog = *Paul and Mary have a dog, his name is Toby*



Paul's and Mary's **dogs** = *Paul has a dog called Toby, and Mary has a dog called Dodo*



- But if the "Person" is a long phrase or sentence, we prefer the construction with 'OF'

That's the house of the man who was talking to you at the party



- A Saxon genitive can also be the "Person" of another Saxon genitive

This is Monica's son's toy (*the toy of Monica's son*)





## **The Article!**

We only use the article with the Person if the Person has an article:

That's THE BOSS -> That's THE BOSS's car

That's PETER -> That's PETER's car (not: That's the Peter's car)

