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Possessive Noun Rules

Possessive nouns show ownership. In other words, they show that something belongs to something else. When forming possessive nouns, we always use an apostrophe (').

There are three rules for making the possessive of nouns:

1. If the noun is singular, add an apostrophe s ('s):

Example: Ben's raincoat Mom's purse Chuck's bike

2. If the noun is plural and ends in s, add just the apostrophe ('):

Example: the Hoffmans' car students' projects babies' toys

3. If the noun is plural but does not end in s, add an apostrophe s ('s):

Example: children's books men's sweaters women's jewellery