

Possessive -'s

Known as *possessive -'s*, *genitive -'s* or *Saxon genitive*. We use it to show that something belongs to somebody. Read about the different uses in the boxes and do the exercises.

SINGULAR NOUNS

We add -'s to a singular noun:
the boy's ball
the girl's father
the pupil's classroom

PLURAL NOUNS

We add an apostrophe (') to a plural noun:
the boys' ball
the girls' father
the pupils' classroom

PROPER NOUNS (NAMES)

Both uses in the examples are allowed:
Chris' dog and/or *Chris's dog*
Doris' cat and/or *Doris's cat*
BUT: *Moses' and Jesus'*

IRREGULAR NOUNS

the child's / children's dog
the mouse's / mice's food
the man's / men's car
the hero's / heroes' fear
the wolf's / wolves' den

-'s vs of

We can use **of** instead of -'s, but -'s is more usual and natural:
the mother of my son
my son's mother

Notice that the number of balls does not matter. The structure is influenced by the possessor and not the possessed.
 (www.englishclub.com)

	one ball	more than one ball
one boy	 the boy's ball	 the boy's balls
more than one boy	 the boys' ball	 the boys' balls

Rewrite these using the genitive case

- The father of my daughter. _____
- He is the boss of my wife. _____
- They are the children of my uncle. _____
- The car belongs to my sister. _____
- The phone belongs to Louis. _____

1. Translate into English the following statements.

- Aquella no es la casa de los doctores. _____
- el carro de la directora de la escuela está dañado. _____
- Ella no es la abuela de mi profesor. _____
- Mis amigos son más locos que los de mi hermana. _____
- Yo pagué las cuentas de mis padres. _____
- Las computadoras de Jorge y Erick son costosas. _____
- El baño de las mujeres siempre está sucio. _____
- Yo no iré a donde Juliana el próximo sábado. _____
- La esposa del jefe de mi mamá es mi mejor amiga. _____
- La moto de Juan siempre ha sido más rápida que la de Diego.
