

Apostrophes to Form Possessives 1

Use apostrophes to show possession. Turn to 472.3-473.4 in *Writers INC*.

- **Grandpa's hair, Chicago's wind, men's room, woman's office**
(When a word—either singular or plural—does not end in *s*, add an apostrophe and *s* to form the possessive.)
- **players' uniforms, lawyers' arguments, dogs' collars**
(When the plural of a word ends in *s*, add only an apostrophe.)
- **great-grandma's diary, somebody's house, son-in-law's job**
(In compound words, make only the last word possessive.)

Place apostrophes in each of the following phrases to show possession.

1. Janes^{v/} prom dress
2. the towns climate
3. mens clothes
4. daughter-in-laws teeth (singular)
5. the womens exercises
6. that girls opinions
7. all the girls clothes (plural)
8. childrens rooms
9. loves blessings
10. someones beauty
11. the cows path (plural)
12. babys crib
13. babies rattles
14. a months work
15. the journeys itinerary
16. stairs carpeting (plural)
17. a years passage
18. a headlights beam
19. the headlights beams
20. peoples judgments

Write sentences containing possessives using the instructions below.

1. Show that one boy owns two dogs, and both dogs need a bath.

Jack's dogs, Sam and Beauty, need a bath.

2. Show that both of your great-grandmothers kept diaries.
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3. Show that a hat, a pair of shoes, and a coat left on the porch belong to John.
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4. Show that hot dogs and brownies are favorite foods for both Ceema and Anna.
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Extend: Write instructions for three sentences that contain possessives (as in the exercise above). Exchange instructions with a classmate and complete each other's exercise.