Apostrophes Apostrophes

Ask yourself these questions when using an apostrophe to show



1. Does the noun express ownership of something?

- a. If no, then you will not need an apostrophe in this instance.
- b. If yes, then you will need an apostrophe, go to question #2.

2. Is the noun singular (referring to only one thing) or plural (referring to more than one thing)?

a. If the noun is *singular*, use an apostrophe + s (ex: 's)

Examples include:

*The man's suit	*My boss's order
*The dog <mark>'s</mark> dish	*Our campus's parking problem

b. If the noun is plural, go to question #3.

3. What kind of plural noun is your noun?

a. If you can make the noun plural by adding "s", only add an apostrophe.

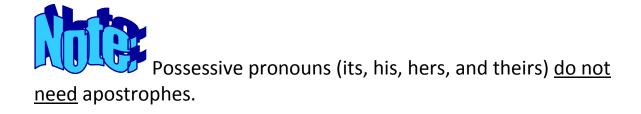
Examples include:

*The kids' clubhouse *Our friends' meeting

b. If you do not make the noun plural by adding "s", add an apostrophe + s (ex: 's)

Examples include:

*The women's jobs *The children's party



its = belong to it The house showed **its** age. hers = belonging to her I think that pen is **hers**.

his = belonging to him He found his keys. theirs= = belonging to them
I think these books are theirs.

CONTRACTIONS:

When using apostrophes to indicate contractions, the apostrophe is used to replace the letters that are being taken out.

Examples:

it's = it is	can't = can not
It's a matter of choice	We can't go to the show.
she's = she is	couldn't = could not
She's a good friend.	They couldn't understand.
wouldn't = would not	could've = could have
I wouldn't do that.	That could've been me.
let's = let us	doesn't = does not

Let's go to dinner.

He **doesn't** like onions.

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