

To 's Or Not To 's

There are **two main** uses of the 's:

1) to show possession or ownership

Example: Jack's car is red.

2) in contracted forms (**ie. the ' replaces 1 or 2 letters**)

Example: It's raining. (= it is)

It's been raining all week. (= it has)

I wouldn't do that if I were you.

Tricky cases:

1) When a word already ends in **s** eg. a name like Charles, and you want to show ownership, you will see both forms: Charles' hat is black; Charles's hat is black

2) When you have a plural form (eg. dogs, ladies, cars etc.) and you want to show ownership, you add the **apostrophe** after the word

Example: The ladies' room is at the back. (more than 1 lady)

The dogs' leashes were all stolen. (more than 1 dog)

3) **Exception: On the third person singular with it, no ' is used**

Example: Its name is Rover.

Study the following :

1. The cats are Siamese.
2. The cat's eyes are green.
3. The cats' eyes are green.
4. Its box is in the corner.
5. It's time to try some examples.

Can you see why there is an 's in some cases and not in others?

Now put in an apostrophe wherever necessary:

1. The girls are coming over after supper.
2. The boys sneakers are brown.
3. Its the day after tomorrow, I think.
4. I don't know its size.
5. The secretaries desks are all in one room.
6. I'd like to meet the childrens teacher.
7. He had three boys come back for practice.
8. There were several friends sitting at the same table.
9. The car is Jacks.
10. They saw all the kids bicycles along the fence in the park.

Spot the errors in the sentences and put the correction in:

1. I didn't know which girl's were coming.
2. It's collar is red.
3. He made some loaves' of bread.
4. The kid did'nt know what to do.
5. I hope you now know how to correct some of your own mistake's.