

# Possessive pronouns in English (with examples)

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The possessive pronoun is used to replace a noun that is preceded by a possessive adjective (my, your sound...):

List of English possessive pronouns:

⚠ Be careful not to confuse possessive pronouns with complementary personal pronouns or possessive adjectives (my, your, his...) !

- **mine**
- **your / yours**
- **his / hers / its**
- **our / ours**
- **your / yours**
- **their / theirs**

Possessive pronouns are used after a name to avoid repeating it.

- Is that Tom's car? No, it's ~~my car~~. => No, it's **mine**. / No, this car is **mine**.
- Whose chair is this? Is it ~~your chair~~? => Is it **yours**? / Is that chair **yours**?
- Her coat is black, ~~my coat~~ is brown. => Her coat is black, **mine** is brown.
- My hair is blond. **Hers** are black.
- The kids are eating **their** sandwiches.
- The sandwiches are **theirs**.

⚠ We use its (and not it's) for animals and things. 'It's' is the contraction of 'it is'. 'Its' is the possessive pronoun.

- The dog is showing **its** teeth.
- The horse has something on **its** back.

⚠ A common error in English: people put apostrophes with possessive pronouns. It's wrong!

- ~~it's, her's, our's, their's, your's~~ **WRONG**
- **its, hers, ours, theirs, yours** **CORRECT**

⚠ Possessive pronouns can be used in English after 'of':

You can say:

- Nathan is **one of my friend** OR Nathan is a friend of **mine**.

You can't say:

- Nathan is a ~~friend of me~~.

You can say:

- I am **one of Karen's friends** OR I am a **friend of Karen's**.

You can't say:

- I am a ~~friend of Karen~~.