

# Apostrophes

## What is an apostrophe?

An apostrophe is a punctuation mark (') used to indicate either a possession or the omission of letters or numbers. Apostrophes can be used in contractions to also replace missing letters. For example, the contraction "we'll" stands for "we will," with the apostrophe replacing "wi."

## What not to do with an apostrophe!

- Do not use an apostrophe in the possessive pronouns whose, ours, yours, his, hers, its, or theirs.
- Do not use an apostrophe in nouns that are plural but not possessive, such as CDs, 1000s, or 1960s.
- Do not use an apostrophe in verbs, apostrophes sometimes show up in verbs that end in -s, such as marks, sees, or finds.

## Apostrophe Rules:

1. Use an apostrophe + "s" ('s) to show that one person/thing owns or is a member of something.
  - Amy's ballet class
  - Lisa's car
  - Robert's car
2. Use an apostrophe after the "s" (s') at the end of a plural noun to show possession.
  - the parents' bedroom
  - the Smiths' lives
3. If a plural noun doesn't end in "s," add an apostrophe + "s" to create the possessive form.
  - the children's room
  - the tuna's beds

### Examples:

It's raining outside.

The man's boots.

The goose's egg.

The dog's bone.

