

Possessive Adjectives



Possessive Adjectives

- Here are the possessive adjectives in English: my, your, his, her, our, and their.

Possessive Adjectives

- Possessive Adjectives show POSSESSION.

Possessive Adjectives

singular

mi / mis (my)

tu / tus (your)

su / sus (his, her)
or (your f.)

plural

nuestro a, os, as
(our)

vuestro, a, os, as
(your inf.)

su / sus (their)
or (your f.)

Possessive Adjectives

- The possessive adjective must be singular if the noun is singular and plural if the noun is plural.

While possessive adjectives refer to the owner, their form agrees in gender and number with the noun that comes after them.

Rule 1

- Possessive Adjectives can change between singular and plural depending upon what comes after.

mi libro

mis libros

*nuestra familia

*This possessive adjective has to agree in gender with the noun familia, which is feminine.



Rule 2

- They are placed before the noun(s).

mis **lápices**

Possessive
adjective

noun



Rule 3

- They can be repeated in series.

Mis padres y **mi** hermano están en México.

¿Dónde están **mis** zapatos y **mis** calcetines?

Tu libro y **mi** cuaderno son bonitos.



In English, the possessive adjectives *his, her, and their* tell whether something belongs to a male, a female, or more than one person.



In Spanish, the possessive adjective su has many possible meanings (*his, her, its, your, their*). Context usually makes the meaning clear.

Showing Possession

- In Spanish there are NO apostrophes.
- You cannot say, for example, Jorge's dog,
(using an apostrophe)

Showing Possession

- You must say,
- “The dog of Jorge,” only in Spanish. Like this:
- El perro de Jorge.

De + noun

- This concept of showing possession is using “de + noun.”

For example: 

De + Noun

● Tengo el cuaderno de Felipe.

La hermana de María es amable.

Su and sus can take the place of a phrase with de + person.

- ¿De dónde es **la madre de Juan**?
- **Su** madre es de Puebla.

Use of “de” to clarify possession

Since the possessive adjective “su” has several meanings, sometimes it is necessary to clarify to whom something belongs. In such cases it is recommended to use “de”. Look at the examples.

Object possessed + de + possessor (noun-pronoun)

English Possessive Adjective	Spanish Possessive Adjective	Using “de”
his house	su casa	la casa de él
her mom	su mamá	la mamá de ella
their books	sus libros	Los libros de ellos(as)



Práctica

1. Ellos son mis hermanos. **mi(s)** (*my*)
2. Diana necesita su libro. **su(s)** (*her*)
3. Nuestra casa está en el campo. **Nuestra(s)** (*our*)
4. Linda y sus hermanas van a la fiesta. **su(s)** (*her*)
5. Su madre es de México. **Su(s)** (*their*)
6. ¿Es ella tu amiga? **tu(s)** (*you-informal*)
7. María y Pedro quieren ir a sus pueblos. **su(s)** (*their*)
8. El profesor enseña a sus estudiantes. **su(s)** (*his*)
9. A nuestros padres les gusta viajar. **nuestro(s)** (*our*)
10. ¿Puedo ver su pasaporte, por favor? **su(s)** (*you-formal*)

Menú



