

POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVES

A **possessive adjective** tells us to whom or what something or someone belongs, eg. **my, your, his, her** etc.

When you look up a possessive adjective in your *Chambers Harrap's French School Dictionary*, you will see **adjective** in blue next to the word.

In English, the owner's gender determines which possessive adjective we use (he → his; she → her). But in French the possessive adjective depends on the gender of the noun. This means it is extremely important to know if a word is masculine or feminine, and singular or plural.

Using your *Chambers Harrap's French School Dictionary* to help you, complete the following table.

Masculine	Feminine	Plural	English meaning
	ma		my
ton		tes	
son			his
	sa		her
	notre		
		vos	
leur		leurs	



What do you notice about the words for “his” and “her”?



Be careful: if a feminine noun begins with a vowel, you need to use the masculine possessive adjective, eg. *mon école, ton histoire* etc.

Rule: The words for “your” (when speaking to an adult or a group of people), “our” and “their” are the same for both masculine and _____. You add an _____ to make these adjectives plural.

MULTI CHOICE

Use your *Chambers Harrap's French School Dictionary* to help you complete the following exercise. Circle the correct possessive adjective and then translate the sentences into English.

Before you can choose the correct possessive adjective, you must find out if the noun is masculine or feminine, and singular or plural. (Refer back to your **noun** worksheets if you need to.)

- Mon / ma / mes sœur habite en Allemagne.
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- Mon / ma / mes cahiers sont verts.
-

- Ton / ta / tes chien est très mignon.
-

- Ton / ta / tes chambre est très grande.
-

- Son / sa / ses stylo est bleu.
-

- Son / sa / ses voiture est vieille.
-

- Votre / vos frères ont 15 ans.
-

- Votre / vos maison se trouve près de la plage.
-

- Notre / nos chat a disparu.
-

- Notre / nos école est très moderne.
-

- Leur / leurs amis aiment aller au cinéma.
-

- Leur / leurs mère travaille tous les jours.
-

FILL IN THE GAPS

Use your *Chambers Harrap's French School Dictionary* to help you, write the correct possessive adjective on the line provided.

- Je vais chez _____ (my) grand-mère une fois par semaine.
- Pierre et _____ (his) frère aiment jouer avec _____ (their) copains.
- _____ (my) sœur et moi faisons _____ (our) devoirs ensemble.
- _____ (my) chats n'aiment pas _____ (your: speaking to a friend) chien.
- Sylvie a donné _____ (her) tortue à _____ (her) frère.
- Vous avez lu _____ (your) livre ?
- _____ (their) mère est très grande et _____ (her) cheveux sont blonds.
- J'aime _____ (your: speaking to a friend) pull.
- _____ (his) armoire contient tous _____ (his) vêtements.
- Yannick et _____ (his) cousine passent _____ (their) vacances chez _____ (their) grand-père.

THE USE OF "DE" TO SHOW POSSESSION

You should now be very familiar with possessive adjectives and how to use them. There is just one more thing you need to know about showing possession in French.

Look at the following sentences, then try to complete the rule below.

French	Literal meaning	Correct English
c'est le stylo de Paul	it's the pen of Paul	it's Paul's pen
c'est la maison de Sylvie	it's the house of Sylvie	it's Sylvie's house
ce sont les cahiers de Jean	they're the jotters of Jean	they're Jean's jotters
ce sont les voitures des profs	they're the cars of the teachers	they're the teachers' cars

Rule : In English we use an apostrophe to show that something belongs to someone. In French we need to say "**the (whatever the object is) of (the owner)**". We use the word _____ for one person and _____ if there are more than one person.

DICTIONARY WORKSHEET 6

Using your dictionary as necessary, translate the following sentences into English.

- *C'est le crayon de Christophe.*
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- *Le chien joue avec la chaussure de Céline.*
-

- *Ce sont les chaussettes de mon frère.*
-

- *Ma sœur a les clés de Pauline.*
-

- *Les livres des élèves sont dans le placard.*
-

- *Jean vend la voiture de sa mère*
-

- *Mes cousins sont dans le jardin de leur voisin.*
-

- *Je porte toujours les vêtements de ma sœur.*
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