

Apostrophes

Apostrophes show possession:

1. For a word that does not end in *s*, add an *apostrophe (')* *s*.
Ex. The dog's bowl is red.
2. For a singular word that ends in *s*, either add just an *apostrophe* or an *apostrophe s*.
Ex. The business's employees are invited to a picnic.
The business' employees are invited to a picnic.
3. For a plural word that ends in *s*, just add an *apostrophe*.
Ex. The trees' leaves have all fallen.

Apostrophes show omission:

1. Shows that letters are left out of words.
Ex. Contractions: can't (cannot); He's (He is); shan't (shall not)
Dates: '90 for 1990

Apostrophes form certain plurals:

1. Numbers: Ex. 2's
2. Letters: n's
3. Words: referred to as words: Ex. and's
4. Symbols: +'s and -'s

Misuse of Apostrophes:

1. Do not use an apostrophe to form the plural for other words.
Ex. The dogs are cute.
2. Do not use an apostrophe for possessive pronouns.
Ex. His car; its wheels