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ARTICLES

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WHAT IS THE POSSESSIVE ARTICLE?

They indicate who owns what and thus show ownership and affiliation.

Possessive articles come before the noun.

Example:

- „Das ist Anna. **ihre** Katze spielt im Garten.“

THE DIFFERENT FORMS OF THE POSSESSIVE ARTICLES

The form of the possessive article depends on the Person it is referring to:

- „Mein Opa 80 Jahre alt.“
- „Sein Bruder ist 75 Jahre alt.“
- „Wie alt ist dein Opa?“

Only the reference person (the “owner”) determines which possessive articles we use, not the case, gender, or number.

Owner	Possessive Article	Noun
ich	→ mein (my)	Opa
du	→ dein (your)	Opa
er	→ sein (his)	Opa
es	→ sein (its)	Opa
sie	→ ihr (her)	Opa
wir	→ unser (our)	Opa
ihr	→ euer (your)	Opa
sie/Sie	→ ihr/Ihr (their/your)	Opa

DECLENSION OF POSSESSIVE ARTICLES

Possessive articles have to be declined, just like all articles.

- The declension is based on the noun that comes after the possessive article (what is "owned" or what "belongs" to someone)
- Declension is the same for all possessive articles (**meinem**, **deinem**, **seinem**, **ihrem**, **unserem**,...) and is based on the gender, case, and number of the noun that is "owned" (and that comes after the possessive article).

	Nominative	Accusative	Dative	Genitive
Masculine	mein Mann	meinen Mann	meinem Mann	meines Mannes
Feminine	meine Frau	meine Frau	meiner Frau	meiner Frau
Neuter	mein Kind	mein Kind	meinem Kind	meines Kindes
Plural	meine Sterne	meine Sterne	meinen Sternen	meiner Sterne

Exception:

eu**er** Vater → eu**ren** Vater

If you add an ending to "ever", you must drop the "e" in the middle.

ANALYSIS OF AN EXAMPLE:

„Das ist Anna. **Ihr** **e** Katze spielt im Garten.“

The person of reference is Anna.

→ **Possessive:** 3. Person Feminine → ihr

"Katze" is the noun to whom the article belongs to.

→ **Number:** Singular (only one cat)

→ **Gender:** Feminine (die Katze)

→ **Case:** Nominative

→ **Nominative + Singular + feminine** = **ihre**

MORE EXAMPLES

- A: „Das ist Jens. **Sein** Auto steht vor **unserem** Haus.“ – This is Jens. **His** car is in front of **our** house.
- B: „Ist Jens **dein** Freund?“ – Is Jens **your** friend?
- A: „Ja, Jens ist **mein** Freund. Er holt mich ab.“ – Yes, Jens is **my** friend. He will pick me up.
- B: „Na dann, viel Spaß bei **eurem** Ausflug.“ – Ok, then have fun on **your** trip.

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