

# The Apostrophe

Apostrophes are used to either show ownership or to show a letter is missing.

**REMEMBER:** Apostrophes should not be used anywhere else!

# Ownership

In speech we add an **s** to show ownership. In written English we also add an apostrophe.



Andrew's waterbottle was nearly empty.



The boys' shirts are green.

If a word ends in an s we don't usually have to add another one. Apostrophes showing ownership are only used with nouns.

# Missing Letters

An apostrophe can also be used to show that letters have been missed out.



**It's** my birthday.

**It is** my birthday.

**We're** having a party.

**We are** having a party.

I **haven't** finished blowing up all of the balloons!

I **have not** finished blowing up all of the balloons!