

Possessives

A “possessive” is a pronoun that shows someone “owns” something. English possessives include: *my/mine, your/yours, his, her/hers, it/its, our/ours, and their/theirs*.

The Danish possessives are the following:

Singular		Plural	
min, mit, mine	my/mine	vores	our/ours
din, dit, dine	your/yours (informal)	jeres	your/yours (informal)
hans/hendes	his, her/hers	deres	their/theirs
dets/dens	its		
Deres	your/yours (formal)	Deres	your/yours (formal)

Some things to note:

- 1) **min** and **din** come in 3 different “flavors.” Which one you use will depend on what noun follows.

a) If a singular *en* noun comes after *my* or *your*, then use **min** (my) or **din** (your)

Examples: (en dør – a door)

Det er **min** dør. Det er **din** dør. [It is my door. It is your door.]

b) If a singular *et* noun comes after *my* or *your*, then use **mit** (my) or **dit** (your)

Examples: (et billede – a picture)

Det er **mit** billede. Det er **dit** billede. [It is my picture. It is your picture.]

c) If a plural (of either gender) comes after *my* or *your*, then use **mine** (my) or **dine** (your)

Examples: (døre, billeder – doors, pictures)

De er **mine** døre. De er **dine** døre. De er **mine** billeder. De er **dine** billeder.

[They are my doors. They are your doors. They are my pictures. They are your pictures.]

- 2) There are 3 forms of *your/yours* (Is it **Formal** or **Informal**? **Singular** or **Plural**?).

a) **din/dit/dine** are **informal** and **singular**

b) **jeres** is **informal** and **plural**

c) **Deres** is **formal** and **singular** or **plural**

- 3) **deres** does not mean the same thing as **Deres**, even though they are pronounced the same.

a) **deres** means their/theirs

b) **Deres** means your/yours (formal)

- 4) **Its** is rendered in two ways: **dens** and **dets**. Which one you use depends on whether you are referring to an *et* word or an *en* word as the “owner” of the item.

Example: *et billede* (a picture) “owns/has” *en ramme* (a frame)

Dette er **mit** billede. **Dets** ramme er flot! (**et** billede; *en ramme*)

This is my picture. **Its** frame is beautiful!

Example: *en dør* (a door) “owns/has” *et håndtag* (a handle)

Dette er **min** dør. **Dens** håndtag er flot! (**en** dør; *et håndtag*)

This is my door. **Its** handle is beautiful!