



Possessive Determiners



Possessive determiners indicate possession or relationship, e.g., my book or my father. They take the same endings as the indefinite article *ein*.

Personal Pronoun	Possessive Determiner
<i>ich</i>	<i>mein</i> (my)
<i>du</i>	<i>dein</i> (your)
<i>er/sie/es</i>	<i>sein/ihr/sein</i> (his/her/its)
<i>wir</i>	<i>unser</i> (our)
<i>ihr</i>	<i>euer</i> (your)
<i>sie/Sie</i>	<i>ihr/Ihr</i> (their/your)

Look at the following example sentences:

Mein Vater ist 56 Jahre alt.

Unser Auto fährt nicht schnell.

Kocht deine Mutter gut?

Wo wohnen Ihre Eltern?

In the nominative case, masculine and neuter do not have an ending, whereas feminine and plural add an **-e**. The ending is determined by the gender of the noun that follows, e.g., in *meine Mutter* there is an -e, because the word mother is feminine (not because the person who says it is female).

masculine

mein Vater

dein Vater

sein/ihr/sein Vater

unser Vater

euer Vater

ihr/Ihr Vater

feminine

meine Mutter

deine Mutter

seine/ihre/seine Mutter

unsere Mutter

eure Mutter

ihre/Ihre Mutter

neuter

mein Auto

dein Auto

sein/ihr/sein Auto

unser Auto

euer Auto

ihr/Ihr Auto

plural

meine Eltern

deine Eltern

seine/ihre/seine Eltern

unsere Eltern

eure Eltern

ihre/Ihre Eltern

ACHTUNG When an ending is added to *euer*, the -e before the -r is dropped, e.g., *euere Mutter* → *eure Mutter*.

Possession in German

Just like in English, when talking about other people, you can also show possession by placing an **-s** after the name, for example: *Silvia**s** Buch*, *Helmut**s** Mutter*. However, in German, you don't use an apostrophe before the -s.

If a name ends in -s, you need to put an apostrophe: *Thomas' Auto*.