

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” word follows “my” or “your,” use **min** (my) or **din** (your)

Examples: (en dør – a door)

Det er **min** dør. Det er **din** dør.

b) If a singular “et” word follows “my” or “your,” use **mit** (my) or **dit** (your)

Examples: (et billede – a picture)

Det er **mit** billede. Det er **dit** billede.

c) If a plural (of either gender) follows “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.

2) There are 3 forms for *your/yours*

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! (“its” refers to the picture which “owns” the frame)

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! (“its” refers to the door which “owns” the handle)