

Possession

- An example of possession in English is the boy's pen. It is much different in German. There are two different ways to write it, and the format is much different.
English: person then object
German: object then person
- One way to show possession is to use the word von
For Example: Das ist das Auto von meinem Vater.
- You can also use the genitive case to show possession:
For Example: Das ist das Auto meines Vaters
- The genitive case is also used after prepositions: anstatt, trotz, während, wegen
- You use the genitive case with indefinite time expressions – eines Tages
- The following applies to the genitive:
 1. Most masculine nouns that end in –e add –n
 2. Masculine and neuter nouns of one syllable add –es, unless end in vowel then -s
 3. Masculine and neuter nouns with two or more syllables add –s
 4. Proper names add an –s, unless names ends in s then keep von
 5. Adjectives add –en regardless of the gender and number of the noun
- Prepositional phrases with von are more common in spoken than in written German.
For Example: Das Haus von meinem Onkel..., is more common than Das Haus meines Onkels...

Whose door is it? Write your phrase both ways.

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|----------------|---------------|
| 1. Das Mädchen | 4. Das Kind |
| 2. Der Herr | 5. Der Junge |
| 3. Die Frau | 6. Die Mutter |

	Maskulin	Feminin	Neutrum	Plural
Dativ (von)	dem alten Mann Einem alten Mann Altem Mann	der alten Frau einer alten Frau alter Frau	dem alten Mädchen einem alten Mädchen altem Mädchen	den alten Kindern keinen alten Kindern alten Kindern
Genitiv	des alten Mannes Eines alten Mannes Alten Mannes	der alten Frau einer alten Frau alter Frau	des alten Kindes eines alten Kindes alten Kindes	der alten Leute keiner alten Leute alter Leute

