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# The Post-possessive case

In English, you can find sentences in which possessiveness is formed simultaneously with the help of the **preposition** "of" and the **possessive case** with the **clitic** - 's, such a construction is called the **post-possessive case**, at times also – the **double possessive**.

The post-possessive case is formed by analogy with the use of **personal pronouns** in the possessive case in the absolute form:

1. *No daughter of mine will stir out-of-doors after sundown.*
2. *No daughter of Henry's will stir out-of-doors after sundown.*

As you can see, the post-possessive case is used when possession cannot be expressed using a simple possessive case, since the defined noun requires an additional **determiner**:

Possessive	Post-possessive
<i>my daughter</i>	<i>no daughter of mine</i>
<i>Henry's daughter</i>	<i>no daughter of Henry's</i>

In some cases, the use of the post-possessive case allows you to clarify the meaning of the expression:

- *It is my picture.* – *This is my picture (which belongs to me).* / *This is my picture (which depicts me).*:
  - *It is a picture of mine.* – *This is a picture that belongs to me.*
  - *It is a picture of me.* – *This is a picture that shows me.*
- *It is Nelly's picture.* – *This is Nelly's picture (which belongs to Nelly).* / *This is Nelly's picture (which depicts Nelly).*:
  - *It is a picture of Nelly's.* – *This is a picture that belongs to Nelly.*
  - *It is a picture of Nelly.* – *This is a picture that shows Nelly.*

When expressing ownership, in informal English, after the preposition "of", the noun can be used in a non-possessive case:

- *No daughter of Henry stirs out-of-doors after sundown.*

But fighters for the purity and harmony of the language believe that if a noun indicates a relation of ownership, then in such cases, it should always be used in the possessive case, that is, the only acceptable option is:

- *No daughter of Henry's stirs out-of-doors after sundown.*

# Particular Cases of The Usage of The Post-possessive

Examples of the comparative use of the simple possessive case and the post-possessive case:

- Simple possessive:
  - *She is Nelly's guest.* – *Она гость Нелли.*
  - *They are Nelly's guests.* – *Они гости Нелли.*
- Post-possessive:
  1. the defined noun additionally requires a **numeral**:
    - *The two guests of Nelly's are still in.*
    - *Two guests of Nelly's are still in.*
  2. the noun being defined additionally requires **pronoun**:
    - *Which guest of Nelly's stayed longest?*
    - *That guest of Nelly's is too arrogant.*
    - *A few guests of Nelly's are still in.*
  3. followed by a **restrictive clause**:
    - *That was the guest of Nelly's that I disliked most.*
  4. the noun being defined is preceded by an **indefinite article** or the noun being defined is used in the plural form, with the emphasis being placed on singling out the object(s) from a multitude of similar:
    - *He is a guest of Nelly's. (He is one of Nelly's guests.)*
    - *They are also guests of Nelly's. (They are ones of Nelly's guests.)*

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