Apostrophe Tip Sheet

To make something possessive, add 's for the following:

the singular form of a noun (even if it ends in s). Example – dog's, James's, business's

the plural form of a noun that does not end in s. Example - children's

the end of a compound noun. Example - brother-in-law's

joint possession. Example – Mom and Dad's money

-The apostrophe after just the second name means the money belongs to both Mom and Dad. However, if they are not together, it would be:

Example – Mom's money and Dad's money.

add 'for the following:

plural nouns that end in s. Example - countries' laws

Remember: Acronyms are treated the exact same way as words when making them possessive or plural.

Example – "The CEOs of both companies worked together to achieve a goal."

This example uses the proper plural form of an acronym.

Example – "The CEO's money was held in multiple bank accounts."

The possessive is formed with the same 's as any other word.

