

Russian Genitive Case

The Russian Genitive Case is used to show possession, or ownership of the object in the sentence.

Like all cases in the Russian language, the easiest way to determine how to use the genitive case is to ask the key questions associated with the case.

So, in other words, when you are forming the sentence, first ask yourself the questions:

(1) Whom/what owns this? Or...

(2) What do I not have?

The answer to these questions will tell you which nouns require the Genitive case.

When in the genitive case, nouns drop their 'regular' endings, and are replaced by the corresponding endings shown in the table below.

The table outlines the typical endings used, as well as the relevant endings that apply to any adjectives linked to the noun. Further, we have given some specific examples highlighting the word endings so you can see how the Genitive case works.

[If you'd like to get your FREE copy of *The Russian Phrase Book for Lovers* including excellent summary tables of the Russian cases, click here.](#)

Genitive Case - Koro? Chero?

In Genitive Case, the ending is removed and replaced as below.

Endings	Adjective	Noun
Masculine (m)	-ого -его	-а -я -ия
Feminine (f)	-ой -ей	-ы -и -ии
Neuter (n)	-ого -его	-а -я -ия
Plural (pl.)	-ых -их	(Refer cases summary table)

Questions that show Genitive Case:

Кого? (of whom?) **Чего?** (of what?)

У кого? (who has?) **Чей?** (whose?)

Откуда? (where from?) **Когда?** (when?)

Examples	Whom owns this?	What do I not have?
Masculine (m)	это собака Иван^а (It's Ivan's dog)	У меня нет больш^{ого} стола^а (I don't have a big table)
Feminine (f)	это сумка Инн^ы (It's Inna's bag)	У меня нет больш^{ой} машин^ы (I don't have a big car)
Neuter (n)	это ручка окн^а (It's the window's handle)	У меня нет больш^{ого} яблока^а (I don't have a big apple)
Plural (pl.)	это дом родител^{ей} (It's my parents' house)	У меня нет учебник^{ов} (I don't have textbooks)