

1 | 2 | Lekcija 3: Naše stvari

Masculine gender and plural nouns

S I N G U L A R		P L U R A L	
Ovo je	 novčanik (audio)	Ovo su	 novčanici (audio)
Ovo je	 sat (audio)	Ovo su	 satovi (audio)
Ovo je	 ključ (audio)	Ovo su	 ključevi (audio)

Masculine nouns and some exceptions when forming the plural

As you may have noticed in this lesson when we talk about plural masculine nouns, some of these masculine nouns were a little bit different when plural:

S I N G U L A R		P L U R A L	
(audio)	 stol	(audio)	 stolovi
(audio)	 sat	(audio)	 satovi
(audio)	 ključ	(audio)	 ključevi

	ključ		ključevi
(audio)		(audio)	
	koš		koševi
(audio)		(audio)	
	ruksak		ruksaci
(audio)		(audio)	
	udžbenik		udžbenici
(audio)		(audio)	
	novčanik		novčanici
(audio)		(audio)	
	liječnik		liječnici

You already know that masculine nouns in their singular form end in a consonant (*student*, *laptop*, *kompjutor*, etc.), and when we create the plural form for each of those nouns we just need to add -i (*studenti*, *laptopi*, *kompjutori*). **However, there are several subgroups of masculine nouns in the plural form:**

- 1 Regular consonant ending (we already learned these): *laptop*, *kompjutor*, *student*.
- 2 Monosyllabic masculine nouns: *stol*, *sat*, *koš*, *ključ*.
- 3 Masculine nouns that end in -K: *ruksak*, *udžbenik*, *novčanik*.
- 4 Masculine nouns that have -a- before the final consonant ending: *policajac*, *vatrogasac*.

For now, we will look at Subgroup 2 and Subgroup 3.

Subgroup 2. One syllable nouns have an additional element before the plural ending -i

All one syllable masculine nouns that have a regular final consonant letter (like we have in English) will use the most common form of -ov- + -i.



stol

stol + ov + i
stolovi

All one syllable masculine nouns that end in palatal consonants, or to say -- in one of the Croatian letters (č, ć, lj, nj, j, š, ž, đ, dž) will need to use -ev- + -i.



koš

koš + ev + i
koševi

ključ

ključ + ev + i
ključevi

Subgroup 3. Nouns that end in -k

All masculine nouns that end in -k (ruksak, udžbenik, liječnik) undergo a certain sound change when creating a plural form. In other words, the final -k sound will become -c- before we add the final -i in the plural. For example:



ruksak

ruksak + i
[k + i = ci]
ruksaci

udžbenik



udžbenik + i

[k + i = ci]
udžbenici



liječnik



liječnik + i
[k + i = ci]
liječnici

Asking About Ownership

Most likely, when you want to answer the question – Whose? (To whom does something belong?) - you will use a possessive pronoun (This is hers.) or a personal name (This is Masha's book) in your answer. We are still far away from using personal names in this type of answer, so we will just focus on answering the question “Whose?” by using possessive pronouns (This is hers./ This is her book.). The tables below will show you the specific forms of these words.

Masculine	Čiji je kovčeg?		Whose suitcase is this? suitcase is masculine, thus “whose” has to be in the masculine form as well
Feminine	Čija je majica?		Whose t-shirt is this? t-shirt is feminine, thus “whose” has to be in the feminine form as well
Neuter	Čije je pismo?		Whose letter is this? Letter is neuter, thus “whose” has to be in the neuter form as well
Plural (m)	Čiji su papiri?		Whose papers are these? papers are masculine, thus “whose” has to be in the masculine plural form as well
Plural (f)	Čije su cipele?		Whose shoes are these? shoes are feminine, thus “whose” has to be in the feminine plural form as well
Plural (n)	Čija su pisma?		Whose letters are these? letters are neuter, thus “whose” has to be in the neuter plural form as well

Remember that each possessive pronoun has to be in the same gender of the noun it refers to. For example:

S I N G U L A R		P L U R A L	
			
Moj stol.		Moji stolovi.	
			
Moja knjiga.		Moje knjige.	
			
Moje pismo.		Moja pisma.	

Below you will find the forms for each possessive pronoun in all three genders and in the singular and plural form.

Note: This is something that we will be working on throughout the semester. It is not necessary to memorize all forms now, but you will see a pattern between the possessive pronoun and a noun. Thus, it will be easy to use them. All possessive pronouns almost always have the identical ending form as the noun it describes.

Čiji – Čija – Čije je?

ja	ti	on	ona	ono	mi	vi	oni	one	ona
moj	tvoj	njegov	njezin	njegov	naš	vaš	njihov		
moja	tvoja	njegova	njezina	njegova	naša	vaša	njihova		
moje	tvoje	njegovo	njezino	njegovo	naše	vaše	njihovo		

Čiji – Čije – Čija su?

moji	tvoji	njegovi	njezini	njegovi	naši	vaši	njihovi
moje	tvoje	njegove	njezine	njegove	naše	naše	njihove
moja	tvoja	njegova	njezina	njegova	naša	naša	njihova

Examples for “MY” (in all gender forms, singular and plural).

Singular



Ovo je moj laptop.
Ovo je moja torba.
Ovo je moje ogledalo.

Plural

Ovo su moji laptopi.
Ovo su moje torbe.
Ovo su moja ogledala.

1.2 Zadatak 5. Čije je?

Look at the following pictures and complete the task.



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