

## Genitive Case: Intro, and Singular

So, let's do a quick rundown of the cases we've learned so far. First off, we've learned nominative, singular and plural. This case is used to denote the subject of a sentence, and it's the basic form of a word. We've also learned accusative, singular and plural. This case is used with various prepositions, and it also denotes the direct object in a sentence. We've learned that nouns, pronouns, and all kinds of adjectives change according to cases. Today, we're going to start on the genitive case.

The genitive case shows possession. In English, we indicate possession by utilizing an apostrophe and the letter "s," as in the phrase "John's cat"—we know the cat belongs to John. We also indicate possession by utilizing the preposition "of." For example, we could also say "the cat of John," and even though it sounds weird, it means the same thing as "John's cat." Another example would be—"the waves of the ocean." In BCS, to indicate possession, we're going to be utilizing the genitive case. This means that the genitive case is used instead of apostrophe-s or the word "of". For all intents and purposes, think of it like this: there is no preposition "of" in BCS, not in the way we normally use it in English. Instead, use the genitive case!

So, what does the genitive case look like? Let's look at the chart:

	<b>Masculine &amp; Neuter</b>	<b>Feminine</b>
<b>Nouns</b>	<i>-a</i>	<i>-e, -i</i>
<b>Adjectives</b>	<i>-og, -eg</i>	<i>-e</i>

For masculine and neuter nouns, you're going to add *-a* for nouns and either *-og* or *-eg* for adjectives (removing the *-o* and *-e* endings on neuter nouns and adjectives). Yes, this does indeed look exactly like animate masculine accusative case! For feminine nouns and adjectives, you're going to remove the *-a* ending and add an *-e*—except for F2 nouns, where you'll just add an *-i*. Yes, this looks exactly like nominative and accusative feminine plural. But remember—this is genitive *singular*.

Remember that when you're changing adjectives into different cases, that means all adjectives. So possessive pronominal adjectives, demonstrative pronominal adjectives—all of those will also change in the genitive case. Important note: for the possessive pronominal adjectives *moj* and *tvoj*, you can use either *mojeg* and *tvojeg* or *mog* and *tvog* (Croatian will use *moga* and *tvoga*).

Okay, now that we've said all of this, let's look at some examples:

*Lišće zelenog polja je lepo.*

The foliage of the green field is beautiful.

*Oči crne mačke su žuti.*

The eyes of the black cat are yellow.

*Kako se kaže "sestra mog tate" na bosanskom?*

How does one say "the sister of my dad" in Bosnian?

*Kosa onog visokog čoveka/čovjeka je siva.*

The hair of that tall man is grey.

*Ne volim udžbenike srpskog jezika.*

I don't like textbooks of the Serbian language.

Now, can you come up with your own examples?