

**their** [*ðeə* (полная форма); *ðɜː* (редуцированная форма перед гласными); *ðə* (редуцированная форма перед согласными)] *poss pron* (употр. тж. атрибутивно; ср. *theirs*)

1. 1) их; принадлежащий им; свой, свои

he is one of their friends - он один из их друзей

do you know their father and mother? - вы знаете их отца и мать?

they all fell on their backs - они все упали на спину

they hurt their feet - они ушибли ноги

their eyes are blue - у них голубые глаза

2) в составе титулов их

Their Majesties - Их Величества

2. (см. his A 4 в сочетании с подлежащим типа each, every, everybody и т. п.) свой

nobody in their senses would believe such a story - никто в здравом уме не поверит такой истории

3. полагающийся им

they knew their Homer [geography] from beginning to end - они прекрасно знали Гомера [географию] (в нужном им объеме)

◇ their own - их собственный

they have a car of their own - у них собственная машина

## their

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**their** *BrE* [ðeə(r)]<sup>а</sup> *NAmE* [ðer]<sup>а</sup> *determiner*

(the possessive form of they)

1. of or belonging to them

• Their parties are always fun.

• Which is their house?

2. used instead of his or her to refer to a person whose sex is not mentioned or not known

• If anyone calls, ask for their number so I can call them back.

### Word Origin:

[**their**] Middle English: from Old Norse **their(r)a** 'of them', genitive plural of the demonstrative **sá**; related to **↑them** and **↑they**.

### More About:

#### gender

#### Ways of talking about men and women

When you are writing or speaking English it is important to use language that includes both men and women equally. Some people may be very offended if you do not. **The human race**

**Man** and **mankind** have traditionally been used to mean 'all men and women'. Many people now prefer to use **humanity**, the human race, human beings or people. **Jobs**

The suffix **-ess** in names of occupations such as **actress**, **hostess** and **waitress** shows that the person doing the job is a woman. Many people now avoid these. Instead you can use **actor** or **host**, (although **actress** and **hostess** are still very common) or a neutral word, such as **server** for **waiter** and **waitress**.

Neutral words like **assistant**, **worker**, **person** or **officer** are now often used instead of **-man** or **-woman** in the names of jobs. For example, you can use **police officer** instead of **policeman** or **policewoman**, and **spokesperson** instead of **spokesman** or **spokeswoman**. Neutral words are very common in newspapers, on television and radio and in official writing, in both *BrE* and *NAmE*.

When talking about jobs that are traditionally done by the other sex, some people say: a male secretary/nurse/model (NOT man) or a woman/female doctor/barrister/driver. However this is now not usually used unless you need to emphasize which sex the person is, or it is still unusual for the job to be done by a man/woman: ▫ My daughter prefers to see a woman doctor. ◇ ▫ They have a male nanny for their kids. ◇ ▫ a female racing driver **Pronouns**

He used to be considered to cover both men and women: ▫ Everyone needs to feel he is loved. This is not now acceptable.

Instead, after everybody, everyone, anybody, anyone, somebody, someone, etc. one of the plural pronouns **they**, **them**, and **their** is often used: ▫ Does everybody know what they want? ◇ ▫ Somebody's left their coat here. ◇ ▫ I hope nobody's forgotten to bring their passport with them.

Some people prefer to use **he** or **she**, **his** or **her**, or **him** or **her** in speech and writing: ▫ Everyone knows what's best for him or herself. **He/she** or **(s)he** can also be used in writing: ▫ If in doubt, ask your doctor. **He/she** can give you more information. (You may find that some writers just use 'she'.) These uses can seem awkward when they are used a lot. It is better to try to change the sentence, using a plural noun. Instead of saying: ▫ A baby cries when he or she is tired you can say ▫ Babies cry when they are tired.

## their

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**their** *S1 W1* /ðeɪ; *strong* ðeə \$ ðɜː *strong* ðer/ *BrE*<sup>а</sup> *AmE*<sup>а</sup> *determiner* [possessive form of 'they']

[Date: 1100-1200; Language: Old Norse; Origin: theirra 'theirs']

1. belonging to or connected with people or things that have already been mentioned:

▫ They washed their faces and went to bed.

▫ The twins spend all their time together.

▫ People had moved back into **their own** homes.

2. used when talking about someone who may be male or female, to avoid saying 'his or her':

Everyone is free to express their own opinion.

Each student will have their own course-work folder.

⇒ this(2)

**their**

Freakuency Pack

12500 **38**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **14**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **1k** **THEY** 3881800

they 1945940

their 1131095

theirs 4338

them 708321

em 3128

themselves 88978

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

145402 **38**<sup>1130922</sup> *appge*

90 **77370**<sup>96</sup> *nn1*

75 **86828**<sup>77</sup> *jj*