



It's vs. Its

WHICH IS WHICH?

It's is a contraction for "it is" or "it has."

Its is a possessive pronoun that shows relationship to something or ownership of something, and is usually reserved for things that are not gendered (like a waffle iron or stapler).

WHEN TO USE THEM:

If you can use "it is" or "it has" in its place, then **it's** is the word for you. If not, then the word you're looking for is **its**!

EXAMPLES:

Read the sentence:

Look at that squirrel! It's/Its carrying a pink light saber!

Try plugging in "it is," or "it has." Does the sentence still work?

Look at that squirrel! It has carrying a pink light saber!

Look at that squirrel! It is carrying a pink light saber!

The second one works! This means the contraction **it's** is correct!

*Look at that squirrel! **It's** carrying a pink light saber!*



Now let's try this one. Read the sentence:

Have you seen that movie? It's/Its soundtrack is the best!

Try plugging in "it is," or "it has." Does the sentence still work?

Have you seen that movie? It is soundtrack is the best!

Have you seen that movie? It has soundtrack is the best!

Neither one works, which means the possessive pronoun **its** must be the one!

*Have you seen that movie? **Its** soundtrack is the best!*

