In English, possessive and plural nouns both have an ‘s’ placed at the end of the word. However, possessive nouns also require an apostrophe. If the noun is singular, but possessive, the noun requires an apostrophe before the ‘s.’ If the noun is plural and possessive, the apostrophe comes after.

**Plural:**
Plurals are used to indicate when there is more than one of a specific noun.

- My friend has two dogs.

In the sentence, the ‘s’ after dog shows that there is more than one.

**Possessive:**
Possessives are used to indicate when a specific noun is the owner of an object.

- My friend’s dogs are both Golden Retrievers.

In the sentence, the apostrophe and ‘s’ added to the word “friend” indicate that “friend” is a possessive noun. The friend owns, or possesses the dogs. Notice that, by contrast, “dogs” is still plural, but because there is no apostrophe, the dogs don’t own anything.

**Plural and Possessive:**
Sometimes, nouns can be both plural and possessive. In situations like this, the apostrophe that is used to indicate a possessive noun comes after the ‘s’ that makes the noun plural.

- My friends’ dogs are all Golden Retrievers.

Because the apostrophe comes after the ‘s’ in the word “friend,” we know that the noun is both plural and possessive. Essentially, the sentence is saying that I have more than one friend who owns Golden Retrievers.