Confusables



who's/whose

Who's is a contraction (shortening) of who is or who has.

Whose denotes ownership of something.



Whose letters are these?



Who's letters are these?



This is the man **who's** responsible for our new marketing campaign.



This is the man **whose** responsible for our new marketing campaign.



Who's ready for lunch?



Whose ready for lunch?



Who's got the latest stock report?



Whose got the latest stock report?

An easy way to figure out which to use is to substitute who is or who has for the whose or who's in your sentence, and see if it still makes sense. For example, if you expand

I spoke to a friend who's business was in trouble

to

I spoke to a friend who is business is in trouble, it doesn't make sense. So the correct choice in this case would be whose.

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