

FRENCH RELATIVE PRONOUN «DONT»



French Relative Pronoun «Dont» - Top Ten Tips

Knowing how to use the French relative pronoun [dont](#) is essential for anyone wanting to communicate on a higher level in French.

"Dont" is a relative pronoun that is used to replace the object of a preposition, allowing speakers to connect ideas and describe relationships between different parts of a sentence.

TOP TEN RULES AND TIPS

- 1 "Dont" is used to replace the object of a preposition, such as "de" or "à". For example, "Le livre dont je parle" means "the book I'm talking about".
- 2 "Dont" can be used to replace a possessive phrase. For example, "L'homme dont le chapeau est rouge" means "the man whose hat is red".

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- ③ "Dont" can be used with both people and things. For example, "Le pays dont je viens" means "the country I come from".
- ④ "Dont" can be used in both restrictive and non-restrictive clauses. For example, "La fille dont je t'ai parlé" means "The girl I told you about", while "La fille, dont j'ai oublié le nom" means "the girl, whose name I've forgotten".
- ⑤ "Dont" can be used after verbs that require the preposition "de", such as "parler de" or "se souvenir de". For example, "Le film dont nous avons parlé" means "the movie we talked about".
- ⑥ "Dont" is often used in formal French and can help you sound more sophisticated and educated.
- ⑦ It's important to pay attention to the noun that "dont" replaces. For example, "Les livres dont je parle" means "The books I'm talking about", while "Les maisons dont je parle" means "The houses I'm talking about".
- ⑧ "Dont" cannot be used to replace the subject of a sentence. For example, you cannot say "Le livre dont lit" to mean "The book that he is reading".
- ⑨ Be careful not to confuse "dont" with other French relative pronouns, such as "qui" or "que". "Qui" is used to

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replace the subject of a sentence, while "que" is used to replace the direct object.

10 The best way to master the use of "dont" is to practice, practice, practice! Try using "dont" in different contexts and pay attention to how native speakers use it in conversation.

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