



## Double Object Pronouns

What is a double object pronoun? Simply put, for sentences using both direct and indirect object pronouns, a double object pronoun is simply the direct and indirect object pronouns put together.

Sometimes they combine to make one word, at other times they follow each other one after the other. They can be placed either before several of the verb forms or actually attached to the end of others. In fact the double object pronoun by nature is optional as (1) you may not replace both objects with pronouns and (2) if you do you do not have to put them together. For example you could use the weak form of a direct object pronoun but the strong form of the direct object pronoun. Per esempio:

Lo dai a lei. – “Give it to her” or more literally “It, you give to her”

(It) being the direct object pronoun is at the beginning of the sentence and (her) being the strong form of an indirect object pronoun is at the end of the sentence. This can be accomplished after what we already learned from our studies on direct and indirect object pronouns.

Now let’s look at how to put them together and how to use them in a sentence. First we need to learn how combine the two direct object pronouns. Double object pronouns are actually quite easy to construct. Here are a few things to keep in mind:

1. The indirect object pronoun always comes first
2. mi/ti/ci/vi (indirect object pronouns) become me/te/ce/ve in order for the speech to flow better
3. The four indirect object pronouns listed above are before but not connected to the direct object pronouns unless they are attached to the end of a verb
4. gli becomes glie and is always attached directly to the indirect object pronoun and is used for he, she and them.

### Here the construction of the object pronouns

#### Italian

me lo/la/li/le

te lo/la/li/le

glielo/gliela/glieli/gliele

ce lo/la/li/le

ve lo/la/li/le

glielo/gliela/glieli/gliele

#### English

(to me) him/her/it/them

(to you) him/her/it/them

(to him/her) him/her/it/them

(to us) him/her/it/them

(to y’all) him/her/it/them

(to them) him/her/it/them

### How to use the Italian double object pronoun!

The double object pronoun is usually found in 1 of 3 places. First, it is found just before the verb form, secondly it is found attached to the end of an infinitive verb and third it is found attached

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to the end of a conjugated verb in certain instances. In short the placement is much like that of the weak form of the direct object pronoun. We will start by looking at it appearing just before the verb by looking at how you get to using the double object pronoun from no object pronouns at all.

Manderò la lettera a Pietro	I will send the letter to Peter
La manderò a Pietro	I will send it to Peter
Gliela manderò	I'll send it to him

Racconti la storia ai bambini	Tell the story to the children
La racconti ai bambini	Tell it to the children
Gliela racconti.	Tell it to them

Here are a few more examples:

Glielo comprerò.	I will buy it for him.
Me li mandi.	Send them to me.
Te la dirrò.	I will tell it to you.
Ve lo mostriamo.	We show it to y'all.
Glielo suggerisce.	He suggests it to her.

Now let's look at instances when of double object pronouns being attached to infinitive verbs.

There are many instances where we have an infinitive verb in our phrases such as when we use modal verbs like *volere*, *dovere* or *potere* and also in various subjunctive clauses where the subject is the same in both clauses. In these cases the double object pronouns can be attached to the end of the infinitive verb. You need to drop the "e" from the infinitive verb and add both object pronouns to the end (indirect first making one word). Here is a formula:

((Infinitive verb – e) + Indirect object pronoun) + Direct object pronoun dare – e = dar + ce = darce + lo = darcelo or "give it to us". - Per esempio;

Devi comprarmelo.	You have to buy for me.
Posso mandargliela.	I can send it to her.
Vogliono cantarcela.	They want to sing it to us.

The third method for the is attaching it to a conjugated verb. The double object pronoun is attached to the end of the conjugated verb that it is used with in the imperative tense as well as gerunds. - Per esempio;

Dimela!	Tell it to me!
Sto mostrandoglielo.	I am showing it to him.
Non dargliela!	Don't give it to them.