

Lesson 81:

Double object pronouns / Pronomi doppi

Double object pronouns (i pronomi doppi) in Italian complicate and confuse learners of Italian. It is important to remember that, when using direct and indirect object pronouns together, certain rules must be applied:

- When double object pronouns are used, they:
 - precede** conjugated verbs
 - attach to **ecco**
 - attach to **infinitives**
 - attach to **commands** (except the formal commands and negative commands).
- The indirect object **precedes** the direct object. Note that the indirect objects change when combined with direct object pronouns (see chart below -- click to enlarge):

	direct objects	lo	la	li	le	ne
indirect objects	mi	me lo	me la	me li	me le	me ne
	ti	te lo	te la	te li	te le	te ne
	gli	glielo	gliela	glieli	gliele	gliene
	le	glielo	gliela	glieli	gliele	gliene
	Le	glielo	gliela	glieli	gliele	gliene
	ci	ce lo	ce la	ce li	ce le	ce ne
	vi	ve lo	ve la	ve li	ve le	ve ne
	loro/Loro	lo... loro	la... loro	li... loro	le... loro	ne... loro

- Note that direct object pronouns will elide with **conjugated forms of avere** (ho, hai, ha and hanno). This applies to **lo, la** and the combined **gli-** forms:

Mi ha detto la verità.
He told me the truth.

Me **l'ha** detta.
He told it to me.

Ti hanno sparato un proiettile.
They shot a bullet at you.

Te **l'hanno** sparato.
They shot it at you.

Gli hanno dato un regalo.
They gave him a gift.

Gliel'hanno.
They gave it to him.

4. [Direct objects influence the past participle in compound tenses](#), even when they are combined. Indirect objects **never** influence the gender and number of past participles:

Ho scritto una lettera a Marco.
I wrote Marco a letter.

L'ho scritta a Marco. [L' = **la lettera** *note how scritto becomes scritta]
I wrote it to Marco.

Gli ho scritto una lettera.
I wrote him a letter.

Gliel'ho scritta.
I wrote it to him.

5. Below are some examples using double object pronouns:

Ho comprato un vestito per Maria.
I bought Maria a dress.

Le ho comprato un vestito.
I bought her a dress. [her = Maria]

L'ho comprato per Maria.
I bought it for Maria.

Gliel'ho comprato.
I bought it for her.

Compr**aglielo**. [**her = Maria, it = the dress**]
Buy her it.

Devi compr**aglielo**. [**her = Maria, it = the dress**]
You have to buy her it.



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