

## **"That" as a relative clause works as a direct object and as a subject of the verb**

<https://forum.wordreference.com/threads/when-and-when-not-to-use-that.1350280/>

You can drop "that" when it introduces or works as the direct object, but you can't do it if it works as the subject of the verb.

**I thought (that) I was too shy** (*What did you think? (That) I was too shy*)

In this case, "I" is the subject of "thought", while "that" is a conjunction that introduces a subordinate clause that works as the direct object of the verb.

You can drop "that".

**The car (that) I bought is red** (*What did you buy? The car and it is red*)

In this sentence, we have a relative clause in which "I" is the subject of "bought", and "that" is a relative pronoun that is the direct object of bought.

Therefore, you can drop it too.

**The car that is parked outside is red.** (*Restrictive, only that one you can replace it by which between commas: the car, which is park outside, is red*)

In this case, there is another relative clause, but "that" works as the subject of "is", so you can't drop it.

To see restrictive and non-restrictive *which* and *that*:

<https://grammar.yourdictionary.com/grammar-rules-and-tips/when-to-use-which-or-that.html>

But there is much more about this topic because you can use **that** with bridge and non-bridge verbs, nouns and adjectives. There are three pages on this on

<https://www.quickanddirtytips.com/education/grammar/when-to-delete-that?page=2>