

# Infinitive and gerund

## Infinitive

### Definition

An infinitive is the basic form of a verb not associated with a subject or tense.

### Construction

**Affirmative:** 'to' + bare infinitive

**to go**

**Negative:** 'not to' + bare infinitive

**not to go**

'to don't go' ❌

**Note that** the bare infinitive is the infinitive without 'to': (not) go

### Uses

As a subject	As a complement	As an object
<b>To be</b> on time is important.	The important thing is <b>to be</b> on time.	We need <b>to be</b> on time.
<b>Not to be</b> on time is impolite.	The important thing is <b>not to be</b> late.	We promised <b>not to be</b> late.

**Note that** as a subject, the gerund is more common than the infinitive.

# Gerund

## Definition

A gerund is a noun formed from a verb - it is the name of an activity or a state.

## Construction

**Affirmative:** bare infinitive + 'ing'

**going**

**Negative:** 'not' + bare infinitive + 'ing'

**not going**

**Note that** we sometimes have to double the last letter of the verb or remove the 'e' at the end. Here are some examples:

swimming  
travelling  
shopping

hiking  
dancing  
filing

## Uses

As a subject	As a complement	As an object
<b>Being</b> in this team has lots of advantages.	What I like about this job is <b>being</b> in a small team.	I love <b>being</b> in this team.
<b>Cycling</b> is good exercise.	My favourite sport is <b>cycling</b> .	I enjoy <b>cycling</b> .
<b>Not having</b> any free time is terrible.	The best thing about my job is <b>not having</b> a long journey to work.	I hate <b>not having</b> enough free time.



From:

<https://tools.e-exercises.com/> - **Ressources pour les apprenants**

Permanent link:

[https://tools.e-exercises.com/doku.php?id=en:grammar:gerunds\\_and\\_infinitives\\_definition](https://tools.e-exercises.com/doku.php?id=en:grammar:gerunds_and_infinitives_definition)

Last update: **2023/02/14 14:32**

