

# The present simple

## Introduction



I **love** my dog!!

## Definition

The present simple is one of the two present tenses. The other one is the **present continuous**.

## Construction

### Affirmative

Subject + verb/verb with **s** or **es** - I **like** cheese.

We add **s** or **es** to the end of regular **verbs** with **he**, **she** or **it**.

Anne **loves** chocolate.

Thierry **misses** his wife.

The train **arrives** at 10 o'clock.

It is important to pronounce the **s** or **es**.

### Negative

Subject + do + not + **bare infinitive** - I **don't like** cheese.

### Interrogative

Do + subject + bare infinitive - **Do you like** cheese?

Negative	Interrogative
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**I don't work**  
**You don't work**  
**He doesn't work**  
**She doesn't work**  
**It doesn't work**  
**We don't work**  
**They don't work**

**Do I work?**  
**Do you work?**  
**Does he work?**  
**Does she work?**  
**Does it work?**  
**Do we work?**  
**Do they work?**

**Does** sounds like **dʌz**.

**Doesn't** sounds like **dʌzənt**.

## Irregular verbs

There are some irregular verbs, including 'do', 'go' and 'have'.

Regular verbs	Do	Go	Have
<b>I work</b>	<b>I do</b>	<b>I go</b>	<b>I have</b>
<b>You work</b>	<b>You do</b>	<b>You go</b>	<b>You have</b>
<b>He works</b>	<b>He does</b>	<b>He goes</b>	<b>He has</b>
<b>She works</b>	<b>She does</b>	<b>She goes</b>	<b>She has</b>
<b>It works</b>	<b>It does</b>	<b>It goes</b>	<b>It has</b>
<b>We work</b>	<b>We do</b>	<b>We go</b>	<b>We have</b>
<b>They work</b>	<b>They do</b>	<b>They go</b>	<b>They have</b>

## Uses

Uses	Examples
To state general facts	The sun <b>rises</b> in the east. Australians <b>speak</b> English.

To give information

I **like** coffee.  
She **lives** in London.  
He **plays** tennis.  
This plane **flies** to Paris.

To talk about repeated actions, habits  
or routines

I **leave** work at 5pm.  
I **go** to the gym on Fridays.

## Examples

I **don't work** on Fridays.  
He **doesn't like** his job.  
She **doesn't drink** coffee in the evening.  
He **doesn't** play tennis.  
They **don't live** in London.

**Does** he **work** in this office?  
**Do** Bill and Ted **drink** tea or coffee?  
**Do** Mexicans **speak** Spanish?  
**Does** she **have** an appointment?  
**Do** you **wash** your hair every day?

## Time phrases

We **use** time phrases with the present simple:

We **have** a team meeting **every week**.  
I **take** the children to school **every morning**.  
I **go** to the dentist **one time a year**.  
She **does** the shopping **on Saturdays**.

## Pronunciation of present tense regular verbs

**/s/ sound after  
soft consonants**

no extra syllable

likes  
shops  
talks  
stops  
walks  
laughs  
works  
wants  
waits  
drinks

sits  
eats

**/z/ sound after  
hard consonants  
and vowel sounds**

no extra syllable

orders  
ends  
loves  
lives  
arrives  
learns

plays  
listens  
needs

**/lʒ/ sound after  
/s/, /ʃ/, /tʃ/, z, /ks/  
and /dʒ/**this adds an extra  
syllable

misses  
watches  
finishes  
manages  
fixes  
washes

**Change y to i and add  
es when verb ends in a  
consonant and y.**

no extra syllable

hurry hurryi +es  
hurries  
fly  
flies  
study  
studies

## Example

Xavier goes to work at 8am but he sometimes misses the bus. On Friday afternoons, he does the shopping and he watches TV in the evenings. He washes his car every Sunday and fixes any problems. He has a son. He helps his father.



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

