

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

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
I work	I do	I go	I have
You work	You do	You go	You have
He works	He does	He goes	He has
She works	She does	She goes	She has
It works	It does	It goes	It has
We work	We do	We go	We have
They work	They do	They go	They have

Uses

Uses	Examples
To state general facts	The sun rises in the east. Australians speak 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	/z/ sound after hard consonants and vowel sounds	/lz/ sound after /s/, /ʃ/, /tʃ/, z, /ks/ and /dz/	Change y to i and add es when verb ends in a consonant and y.
no extra syllable	no extra syllable	this adds an extra syllable	no extra syllable
likes shops talks stops walks laughs works wants waits drinks	orders ends loves lives arrives learns	plays listens needs	misses watches finishes manages fixes washes
			hurry hurri +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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