

# 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
I <b>work</b>	I <b>do</b>	I <b>go</b>	I <b>have</b>
You <b>work</b>	You <b>do</b>	You <b>go</b>	You <b>have</b>
He <b>works</b>	He <b>does</b>	He <b>goes</b>	He <b>has</b>
She <b>works</b>	She <b>does</b>	She <b>goes</b>	She <b>has</b>
It <b>works</b>	It <b>does</b>	It <b>goes</b>	It <b>has</b>
We <b>work</b>	We <b>do</b>	We <b>go</b>	We <b>have</b>
They <b>work</b>	They <b>do</b>	They <b>go</b>	They <b>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 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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