

**(Practice the exercises from unit 4-7 in the *Oxford Practice Grammar after studying the following*)**

**SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE (based on chapter 5 – *Oxford Practice Grammar* by John Eastwood)**

The simple present tense is one of several forms of present tense in English. It is used to describe **habits, unchanging situations, general truths, and fixed arrangements**. The simple present tense is simple to form. Just use the base form of the verb: (I take, you take, we take, they take) The 3rd person singular takes an -s at the end. (he takes, she takes)

## THE SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE IS USED:

- To express habits, general truths, repeated actions or unchanging situations, emotions and wishes:  
**I smoke** (habit); **I work in London** (unchanging situation); **London is a large city** (general truth)
- To give instructions or directions:  
**You walk** for two hundred meters, then **you turn** left.
- To express fixed arrangements, present or future:  
Your exam **starts** at 09.00
- To express future time, after some conjunctions: **after, when, before, as soon as, until**:  
**He'll give it to you when you come next Saturday.**

**Be careful! The simple present is not used to express actions happening now.**

## EXAMPLES

- **For habits**  
He drinks tea at breakfast.  
She only eats fish.  
They watch television regularly.
- **For repeated actions or events**  
We catch the bus every morning.  
It rains every afternoon in the hot season.  
They drive to Monaco every summer.
- **For general truths**  
Water freezes at zero degrees.  
The Earth revolves around the Sun.  
Her mother is Peruvian.
- **For instructions or directions**  
Open the packet and pour the contents into hot water.  
You take the No.6 bus to Watney and then the No.10 to Bedford.
- **For fixed arrangements**  
His mother arrives tomorrow.  
Our holiday starts on the 26th March
- **With future constructions**  
She'll see you before she leaves.  
We'll give it to her when she arrives.

## FORMING THE SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE: TO THINK

Affirmative

Interrogative

Negative

Affirmative	Interrogative	Negative
I think	Do I think?	I do not think
You think	Do you think?	You do not think
He thinks	Does he think?	He does not think
She thinks	Does she think?	She does not think
It thinks	Does it think?	It does not think
We think	Do we think?	We do not think.
They think	Do they think?	They do not think.

## NOTES ON THE SIMPLE PRESENT, THIRD PERSON SINGULAR

- In the third person singular the verb **always ends in -s**:  
*he wants, she needs, he gives, she thinks.*
- Negative and question forms use DOES (= the third person of the auxiliary 'DO') + the infinitive of the verb.  
*He wants ice cream. **Does** he want strawberry? He **does** not want vanilla.*
- Verbs ending in **-y** : the third person changes the **-y** to **-ies**:  
*fly --> **flies**, cry --> **cries***  
**Exception:** if there is a vowel before the **-y**:  
*play --> **plays**, pray --> **prays***
- Add **-es** to verbs ending in: **-ss, -x, -sh, -ch**:  
*he **passes**, she **catches**, he **fixes**, it **pushes***

## EXAMPLES

- **He goes** to school every morning.
- **She understands** English.
- **It mixes** the sand and the water.
- **He tries** very hard.
- **She enjoys** playing the piano.

## Table Of Contents:

- [How to form Present Simple](#)
- [Spelling rules for adding '-s'](#)
- [When to use Present Simple](#)
- [Expressions of time](#)

The **Present Simple** tense describes things that are true, actions that happen many times, and simple statements of fact.



via <http://www.english-natali.ru/ru/poleznie/prs/index.html>

- I **live** in London.
- I **work** in a bank.
- I **go** to work every day.
- I **play** football on Sundays.

## How to form Present Simple

To make Present Simple, we use the base ([infinitive](#)) form of the verb without 'to':

- To live → I **live** in London.
- To work → I **work** in a bank.
- To go → I **go** to work every day.
- To play → I **play** football on Sundays.

With '**he**', '**she**', '**it**', add '**-s**' to the verb:

- I **drink** coffee.
- She **drinks** tea.
- It **tastes** good.

## Spelling rules for adding '-s'

There are some rules to remember when adding the '-s' ending to verbs.

1. If the verb ends in **-o**, **-ch**, **-sh**, **-ss** or **-x**, add **'-es'**.

- I go to work. She **goes** to college.
- I teach English. He **teaches** French.
- I wash my face. She **washes** her hands.
- I kiss her. She **kisses** me back.
- I mix the drinks. She **relaxes** on the couch.

2. If the verb ends in a **consonant** (b, c, d, etc.) + **-y**, drop the **-y** and add **'-ies'**:

- To carry → She **carries** a bag.
- To study → He **studies** history.
- To fly → An airplane **flies**.

3. In Present Simple with **'he/she/it'** the verb **'have'** has the form **'has'**:

- I **have** a pen and he **has** a pencil.
- She **has** a book and she **reads** it.

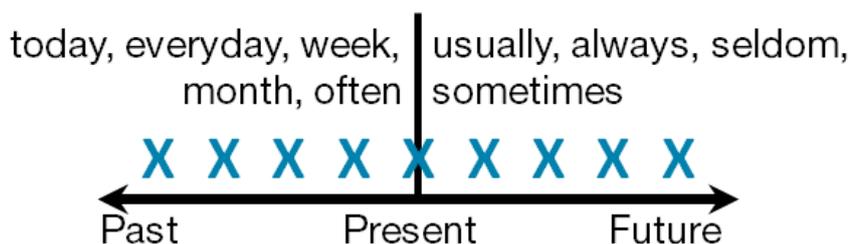
4. In Present Simple, the verb **'be'** has the forms **'am'** for **'I'**, **'is'** for **'he/she/it'** and **'are'** for **'we/you/they'**:

- I **am** a senior sister.
- She **is** a student.
- We **are** doctors.

## When to use Present Simple

We use **Present Simple** when we want to talk about fixed habits or routines, repeated actions or unchanging situations, emotions and wishes, likes and dislikes.

### Present Simple Tense



### Verb or Verb + s/-es in 3 p.

via <https://www.learnathome.ru/grammar/present-simple-in-english.html>

Present Simple is used to express:

1) general truths and scientific facts (something that is always true)

- *Water **boils** at 100 °C.*
- *The human body **contains** 206 bones.*

2) something that happens regularly in the present (habits and routines)

- *Kate **goes** to dance club on Sundays.*
- *I **play** football every weekend.*

3) something that is true in the present (unchanging situations and permanent states)

- *Paris **is** the capital of France.*
- *I'**m** a student.*
- *He **lives** in London.*

4) fixed arrangements or timetable events

- Your exam **starts** at 09.00.
- This train **leaves** at 6.30 a.m.

5) instructions and directions

- **Open** the packet and **pour** the contents into hot water.
- You **take** the No.6 bus to Watney and then the No.10 to Bedford.

6) something in the future after time words like 'when', 'after' and 'before' and after 'if' and 'unless':

- I'll talk to John **when** I **see** him.
- You must finish your work **before** you **go** home.

Let's summarize the usages of Present Simple:

# SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE

for instantaneous situations ( in sport, etc.)

**Ex:** Ronaldo passes the ball to Benzema.

for habits and repeated (regular) actions

**Ex:** The child drinks milk every day.

for newspaper headlines

**Ex:** MAN ENTERS SPACE

with future constructions

**Ex:** I will call you before I leave.

with non- progressive

**Ex:** I believe that you are innocent.

for general truths or scientific facts

**Ex:** Water boils at 100° C.

when telling stories

**Ex:** Suddenly, the window opens and a masket man enters.

for giving directions and instructions

**Ex:** First of all, break the eggs and whisk with sugar.

in ceremonial or formal conversations

**Ex:** I pronounce you man and wife.

for scheduled programs or arranged future

**Ex:** The examination starts at 9 o'clock tomorrow.

via <https://englishstudypage.com/grammar/simple-present-tense-english-grammar/>

## Expressions of time

Present Simple is often used with words like **usually, sometimes, often, seldom, never** or when talking about specific time (**at 10.30, every Sunday, in winter**, etc.):

- *I **usually have** lunch in a small cafe around the corner, but **on Sundays** we **go** to a restaurant.*
- *I **sometimes** go to the cinema.*
- *She **never** plays football.*

Here's a good video from Oxford Online English explaining how to use Present Simple correctly:

See also:

[Present Simple: Negative & Questions](#)

[The Verb 'Be' in Present Simple](#)

[Present Simple of Present Continuous?](#)

Table Of Contents:

- Negative sentences in Present Simple
- The verb 'be'
- Questions in Present Simple
- Yes/No questions
- Special questions
- The verb 'be'

[PDF Version](#)

The **Present Simple** tense describes things that are true, actions that happen many times, and simple statements of fact.

The average temperature of  
the human body is 37°C



Water freezes at 0°C



Water boils at 100°C



via <http://eng911.ru/rules/time/pravila-present-simple.html>

## Negative sentences in Present Simple

To make negative statements in Present Simple, we use:

**do not (don't) / does not (doesn't) + the base form of the verb** (infinitive without 'to')

Compare:

*positive*

I	<b>work</b>
we	<b>like</b>
you	<b>do</b>
they	<b>have</b>
he	<b>works</b>
she	<b>likes</b>
it	<b>does</b>
	<b>has</b>

*negative*

I	<b>don't</b> (do not)	<b>work</b>
we		
you		
they		
he	<b>doesn't</b> (does not)	<b>like</b>
she		
it		
		<b>do</b>
		<b>have</b>

via [https://lingup.pro/training-machine/lessons-list/Essential\\_GIU/](https://lingup.pro/training-machine/lessons-list/Essential_GIU/)

Note: If you use 'doesn't', don't add '-s' to the main verb.

- *She doesn't think.*

*NOT: -She doesn't thinks.*

## The verb 'be'

When we use the verb 'to be' we don't use 'do' or 'does'. We say '**am/is/are + not**'.

- *I am from France. - I'm **not (am not)** from France.*
- *You are late. - You **aren't (are not)** late.*
- *He is allergic. - He **isn't (is not)** allergic.*

## Questions in Present Simple

To make questions in the Present Simple, we use '**Do**' or '**Does**'. When we ask questions in English, the word order is different:

### **Do/Does + subject + verb**

- **Do** you **like** oranges?

- **Does** he **work** here?
- Where **does** this train **stop**?

When do we use do or does?

Subject	Do/Does	Example
I	<i>do</i>	Do I have a coat?
You	<i>do</i>	Do you have a coat?
He/she/it	<i>does</i>	Does she have a coat?
We	<i>do</i>	Do we have a coat?
They	<i>do</i>	Do they have a coat?

## Yes/No questions

To create a question that will be answered with a 'yes' or 'no', use '**Do**'/'**Does**' (or '**Don't**'/'**Doesn't**' for a negative question) + the base form of the main verb.



QUESTION	SHORT ANSWER
(i) <b>Do</b> you <b>like</b> ice cream?	Yes, I <b>do</b> . No, I <b>don't</b> .
(j) <b>Does</b> Max <b>like</b> ice cream?	Yes, he <b>does</b> . No, he <b>doesn't</b> .

49

via <https://slideplayer.com/slide/7279748/>

- **Do** you **like** cake?
- **Does** John **walk** to school?
- **Do** Lauren and Sarah **have** bicycles?
- **Do** we **need** more milk?

Note: If you use 'Does', don't add '-s' to the main verb.

- Does he write books?

NOT: ~~Does he writes books?~~

## Special questions

Special questions (also known as wh-questions) are questions that require more information in their answers. They are made using **wh- words** such as **what, where, when, why, which, who, how, how many, how much**.

To make a special question, use the same word order as with yes-no questions but put a wh-word before the verb 'do' or 'does'. The structure is:

wh- word	do or does	subject	main verb	
<b>Where</b>	<b>does</b>	Libby	<b>go</b>	to school?
<b>Why</b>	<b>do</b>	I	<b>hate</b>	him?
<b>How</b>	<b>do</b>	you	<b>like</b>	your haircut?
<b>When</b>	<b>does</b>	the train	<b>arrive?</b>	

## The verb 'be'

With the verb 'to be', we do not use 'do' or 'does'. We use '**am**', '**is**', or '**are**'. The word order is the same.

- **Are** you at home right now?
- **Is** he angry at me?
  
- **Why are** you here?
- **What is** the answer?
- **Where are** they?

Watch this video from GoEnglish and revise how to form positive, negative and interrogative forms of Present Simple:

See also:

[Present Simple: Statements](#)

[The Verb 'Be' in Present Simple](#)

[Present Simple of Present Continuous?](#)

In the simple present tense, the verb takes the marker -s when the subject is a singular noun or pronoun. When the subject is the first person singular pronoun 'I' or a plural noun or pronoun, there is no -s marking.

Fill in the blanks with the simple present tense form of the verb given in the brackets.

1. Father ..... (go) to office every day.
2. I ..... (want) to be a famous writer.
3. She ..... (earn) a nice salary.
4. Rahul ..... (aspire) to be a rocket scientist.
5. My sister ..... (sing) very well.
6. Raju ..... (go) to school every morning.
7. My dog ..... (like) to chase cats.
8. My father ..... (cook) delicious meals.
9. The rabbit ..... (run) fast.
10. She ..... (wear) a new frock every day.
11. Water ..... (change) into water vapor on cooling.
12. My daughter ..... (enjoy) reading books.
13. Rani ..... (stay) with her parents.

### Answers

1. Father **goes** to office every day.
2. I **want** to be a famous writer.
3. She **earns** a nice salary.
4. Rahul **aspires** to be a rocket scientist.
5. My sister **sings** very well.

6. Raju **goes** to school every morning.
7. My dog **likes** to chase cats.
8. My father **cooks** delicious meals.
9. The rabbit **runs** fast.
10. She **wears** a new frock every day.
11. Water **changes** into water vapor on cooling.
12. My daughter **enjoys** reading books.
13. Rani **stays** with her parents.

# Simple present tense exercise

The form of the verb used in a sentence is almost always determined by the number and person of the subject. This can cause a great deal of confusion for beginner level students.

For example, in the simple present tense the verb takes the marker -s when the subject is a singular noun or pronoun.

This grammar exercise tests your ability to use correct simple present tense forms.

1. I ..... playing cricket.

enjoy  
enjoys  
enjoying

2. She ..... to wear expensive dresses.

like  
likes  
is liking

3. My sister ..... in Chennai.

live  
lives  
am living

# Simple present tense exercise

4. She ..... the right person for this job.

is  
are

Where ..... you live?

does  
do  
is

6. My brother ..... in the army.

serve  
serves

7. She ..... the answer, but she won't tell me.

know  
knows  
knowing

# Simple present tense exercise

If I ..... the answer, I will tell you.

know  
knows  
knowing

9. .... the books on that table.

Put  
Puts  
Putting

10. She ..... French.

know  
knows  
knowing

## Answers

1. I enjoy playing cricket.
2. She likes to wear expensive dresses.
3. My sister lives in Chennai.

# Simple present tense exercise

4. She is the right person for this job.
5. Where do you live?
6. My brother serves in the army.
7. She knows the answer, but she won't tell me.
8. If I know the answer, I will tell you.
9. Put the books on that table.
10. She speaks French.

Table Of Contents:

- [Present Simple or Present Continuous?](#)
- [Present Simple](#)
- [Present Continuous](#)
- [How to form](#)
- [Adverbs of time](#)

How do you choose between **Present Simple** and **Present Continuous**?

He is reading.



He reads every day.

via <https://s-english.ru/uprazhneniya/present-simple-present-continuous>

Both **Present Simple** and **Present Continuous** are used to talk about something that happens in present.

We use **Present Simple** when we want to talk about fixed habits or routines – things that don't change.

We use **Present Continuous** to talk about actions which are happening at the present moment, but will soon finish.

Compare the following examples:

- He **is reading** a book.
- He **reads** every day.

'He reads every day' tells us that reading a book is something the speaker always does. It is part of a routine or habit. This is a permanent situation.

'*He is reading a book*' tells us that the speaker is reading a book right now. Soon this action will be over. This is a temporary situation.

## Present Simple or Present Continuous?

So, how do you choose between the Present Simple and Present Continuous?

### Present Simple

1. We use Present Simple to talk about facts, hobbies and regular activities:

- Tom **lives** in London. (*fact*)
- I **go** swimming on Mondays. (*regular activity*)
- Do you **speak** Russian? (*question about a fact*)

2. We use the Present Simple to talk or ask about things that are always true:

- **Do you speak** English?
- I **don't have** a car, I **prefer** to ride a bike.

3. We use the Present Simple to express likes, dislikes and opinions:

- I like football. (*likes*)
- I don't like tennis. (*dislikes*)
- Do you love pop music? (*question about likes*)
- I think it's interesting. (*opinions*)

4. We also use the Present Simple to talk or ask about habits:

- Peter **goes** for a walk every day.
- **Do you drink** tea or coffee in the morning?

5. We often use the Present Simple with adverbs of frequency (*always, sometimes, never, etc.*), or when we say a time, day or period (*at 9.00, on Wednesdays, in spring, etc.*):

- *Sometimes I **dream** about you.*
- *I **never walk** alone at night.*
- *Jane **wakes up** at 7.00 a.m.*
- *He **meets** with his friends on Saturdays.*

## Present Continuous

1. We use the Present Continuous to talk about things happening now, or unfinished activities:

- ***Are you reading** a book? (now)*
- *They **are building** a new house. (it's not finished yet)*
- *Mary **is studying** French at university. (around now, not at the moment of speaking)*

2. We use the Present Continuous to talk about **future arrangements**:

- *She **is getting married** on November 5th.*
- *We're **leaving** tomorrow.*

3. We use the Present Continuous to talk about annoying habits (+ always):

- *You **are always losing** things.*
- *The children **are always fighting**.*

4. We use expressions like 'at the moment', 'now', and 'today/this week/month/year':

- *Michael **is talking** on the phone at the moment.*
- *It's **snowing** a lot this week.*
- *I'm **working** in our Chicago office this month.*

Note: The verbs '**want**', '**like**', '**love**', '**need**', '**understand**' and '**believe**' are not used in Present Continuous:

- *I want something to eat. NOT: I'm wanting something to eat.*
- *Do you need a pencil? NOT: Are you needing a pencil?*

## How to form

Let's compare the forms of Present Simple and Present Continuous:

	<b>Present Simple</b>		<b>Present Continuous</b>
	I, we, you, they	he, she, it	
<b>+</b>	V	V + s (es)	am is + V ing are
<b>-</b>	<b>don't + V</b>	<b>doesn't + V</b>	am is + not + V ing are
<b>?</b>	<b>Do + ... + V?</b>	<b>Does + ... + V?</b>	Am Is + ... + V ing ? Are

via <https://englishfull.ru/grammatika/present-simple-i-present-continuous.html>

## Adverbs of time

Let's compare the adverbs and adverbial phrases that are used with Present Simple and Present Continuous:

## PRESENT CONTINUOUS



## PRESENT SIMPLE



via <https://englishfull.ru/grammatika/present-simple-i-present-continuous.html>

Watch the video from Learn English from Nick Shepherd explaining the difference between Present Simple and Present Continuous:

See also:

[Present Simple: Statements](#)

[Present Continuous: Statements](#)