

Present tenses in English

The Simple Present Tense

1. Forms
2. Spelling of third person singular form
3. Use
4. Exceptions

The Simple Present Tense- FORMS

□ **Affirmative**- *simple verb form*

I/ you/ we/they work

He/she/ it work**S**

□ **Interrogative**

DO you/we/ they/ I WORK?

DOESN'T he/she/it WORK?

□ DO- auxiliary verb, WORK- infinitive of the lexical/full verb.

The Simple Present Tense- FORMS

□ Negative

I/ you/ we/ they **DON'T WORK.**

He/ she/ it **DOESN'T WORK.**

The Simple Present Tense- SPELLING

Third person singular form

- Most verbs add –s to infinitive: *sits, stays, works*
- Verbs ending in *consonant +y* change *Y* to *I* and add –ES: *hurries, replies, cries*
- Verbs ending in –s, -z, -ch, -sh, -x add –ES to infinitive: *misses, buzzes, fixes, pushes, watches*
- Exceptions: *has, goes, does*

The Simple Present Tense- USE

1. **General time** permanent, regular and repeated actions

What do frogs eat? She works for an insurance company.

2. **Series of events** completed actions and events often in commentaries or demonstrations

First I take a bowl and break two eggs into it.

The Simple Present Tense- USE

3. Here comes... There goes ...

Here comes your husband. There goes our bus.

4. Promises, Suggestions

I swear that I will tell the truth. I agree. I promise never to smoke again. Why don't you take a day off ?

5. Formal correspondence fixed phrases

*We write to advise you...(Less formal: We are writing to let you know). I look forward to hearing from you.
(Less formal: I'm looking forward to hearing...)*

The Simple Present Tense- USE

6. Instructions

How do I get to the station? You go straight on to the traffic lights, then turn left.

7. **Stories** informal narrative, summaries of plays or stories

In Act I, Hamlet meets the ghost of his father.

8. **I hear, I see, I understand, I gather** perfect or past meaning in introductory expressions

I hear you're getting married.

The Simple Present Tense- USE

9. **Temporary situations** stative/state verbs/non-progressive verbs

I like this wine very much. I believe you.

10. **Talking about the future**

- timetabled future events

His train arrives at 11:46. I start my new job tomorrow.

- subordinate clause of time and condition *I will phone you when I GET home. You will soon be better as long as/providing you STAY in the warm.*

The Present Progressive Tense- FORMS

□ Affirmative

the auxiliary verb **TO BE** + **present participle (příčestí přítomné)** of the lexical (full) verb

I am working. She is working.

□ Interrogative

Inversion- auxiliary verb goes before subject *Where is the concert taking place?*

□ Negative

NOT after auxiliary verb *She is NOT working.*

The Present Progressive Tense- USE

1. **Use 'around now'** *Hurry up! We're all waiting for you. Why are you crying? Is something wrong?*
2. **Changes** *The climate is getting warmer. That child's getting bigger every day.*
3. **Talking about the future** fixed arrangement or intention
What are you doing tomorrow evening?
4. **Repeated actions happening around the moment of speaking, often annoying** *Why is he hitting the dog? Why are you biting your nails?*

Practice

- Možná, že pojedeme příští rok do Austrálie.
- Nejlepší je nechodit do kuchyně. John a Tony vedou jednu ze svých politických debat.
- Proč si pořád bereš věci z mého pokoje?
- Než ho najdeme, bude pozdě.
- Nespadneš, pokud se nebudeš dívat dolů.