

-ing form
to-infinitive
bare infinitive

+

had better
would rather



-ing form

	COMMON VERBS	EXAMPLES
likes and dislikes	<i>dislike can't stand enjoy hate* like* love* (not) mind prefer*</i>	<i>I enjoy not doing anything sometimes. Simon doesn't mind working late today.</i>
ideas and opinions	<i>admit consider imagine look forward to recommend suggest think of</i>	<i>Do you admit stealing that watch? I'd recommend staying near the beach. He suggested paying by credit card.</i>
actions that start, stop or continue	<i>begin* continue* delay give up start* stop* finish keep (on) practise put off spend (time)</i>	<i>Has he given up smoking? I spent two hours preparing this meal. Lena practises singing every day.</i>
others	<i>avoid can't help deny involve mention miss risk</i>	<i>You can't risk losing your job over a silly argument.</i>



In the verb *look forward to*, *to* is a preposition, so we use an *-ing* form:

X I'm looking forward to see you again. ✓ I'm looking forward to seeing you again.

The *-ing* form sometimes needs to be

- negative: *I hate not getting to a station or airport on time.*
- perfect (for an earlier action): *Joe admitted having sent the wrong email.* (= that he had sent)
- passive: *Don't ring after 10.30 – I hate being woken up by the phone!*

***-ing* form**

Tenses of the <i>-ing</i>		
	Active voice	Passive voice
Present	playing	being played
Perfect	having played	having been played

- after expressions such as: *be busy, it's no use, it's no good, it's (not) worth, what's the use of, can't help, there's no point (in), can't stand, have difficulty (in), have trouble*, etc.

John can't help stressing about the race.

- after *spend, waste, or lose* (time, money, etc).

He spends two hours training at the gym.

- after the preposition *to* with verbs and expressions such as: *look forward to, be used to, in addition to, object to, prefer* (doing sth to doing sth else).

She's used to waking up at dawn.

- after other **prepositions**.

He was thinking of getting a personal trainer.

to-infinitive

	VERBS	EXAMPLES
mental states or activity	agree choose decide forget* learn remember* want wish	Did you agree to help them? Why did we decide to go camping?! I'm learning to read classical Arabic.
future arrangements	aim arrange expect hope offer plan prepare promise refuse threaten	The hotel aims to provide excellent service. The college promised not to give up my place. Our neighbours are threatening to call the police!
appearance	appear, pretend, seem, tend	Mr Knowles doesn't seem to be very confident. People round here tend not to go to bed early.
other	attempt (can/can't) afford ask deserve fail offer try*	We can't afford to eat out tonight. The letter failed to arrive on time.

The infinitive sometimes needs to be

- negative: She **appears not to worry** about her weight. (NOT ~~to not worry~~)
- continuous: I **expect to be earning** a lot of money when I'm forty! (a continuous action)
- perfect: We **plan to have finished** all of the decorating by July. (an action that will be completed in the future)
- passive: Jack drives over the speed limit all the time – he **deserves to be caught**.

Tenses of the infinitive

	Active voice	Passive voice
Present	(to) write	(to) be written
Present Continuous	(to) be writing	—
Perfect	(to) have written	(to) have been written
Perfect Continuous	(to) have been writing	—

Forms of the infinitive corresponding to verb tenses

present simple/will → **present infinitive**

present continuous/future continuous →
present continuous infinitive

past simple/present perfect/past perfect/future perfect → **perfect infinitive**

past continuous / present perfect continuous / past perfect continuous → **perfect continuous infinitive**

The **present infinitive** refers to the present or future. *I'd like to go for a walk.*

The **present continuous infinitive** is used with *appear, claim, seem, pretend, must, can't, happen, should, would*, etc. to describe an action happening now.

He must be working in the garden now.

The **perfect infinitive** is used with *appear, happen, pretend, seem, believe, claim* and the modal verbs to show that the action of the infinitive happened before the action of the verb.

He claims to have met the Queen. (First he met the Queen, then he claimed he had met her.)

The **perfect continuous infinitive** is used with *appear, seem, pretend*, etc. and the modal verbs to put emphasis on the duration of the action of the infinitive, which happened before the action of the verb. *She looks tired. She seems to have been working all morning.*

The **simple -ing form** refers to the present or future. *She enjoys dancing.*

The **perfect -ing form** shows that the action of the -ing form has happened before the action of the verb. We can use the simple -ing form instead of the perfect -ing form without a difference in meaning.

He denied having stolen the money. or *He denied stealing the money.*

- after *would like, would prefer, would love*, etc to express a specific preference. *We would love to watch the football match with you tonight.*
- after adjectives which describe feelings/emotions (*happy, glad, sad*, etc), express willingness/unwillingness (*eager, reluctant, willing*, etc) or refer to a person's character (*clever, kind*, etc); and the adjectives *lucky* and *fortunate*.
I'm glad to see you are well again.
- after *too/enough*. *It wasn't cold enough to go skiing.*
- in the expressions *to tell you the truth, to be honest, to sum up, to begin with*, etc. *To be honest, I forgot to pick up the tickets for the match.*

would like, etc.

We use the infinitive with *to* after *would ('d) + like/love/hate/prefer*:

I'd really like to learn a new skill – perhaps we could go sailing?

Jackie would prefer not to go out this evening as she's really tired.

We can use the *-ing* form after *like, love, hate* and *prefer* without *would ('d)*

Compare:

I'd love to go mountain climbing. (in the future)

I love going mountain climbing. (= I enjoy the activity.)

I'd prefer to stay in tonight. (on this occasion)

I prefer eating at home to eating in restaurants. (in general)

Verb (+ object) + infinitive with to

With some verbs it is possible to put an object between the first verb and the infinitive:

*ask beg dare expect help intend mean need
require want wish would like/love/hate/prefer*

verb + infinitive + to	verb + object + infinitive with to
<i>Sami wants to find a better job.</i>	<i>Sami wants his son/him to find a better job.</i>
<i>I didn't intend to spend so much money.</i>	<i>I didn't intend Lara/her to spend so much money.</i>

! We don't use a *that* clause after these verbs:

~~*X We begged Antonia that she didn't go out alone.*~~ ✓ *We begged Antonia not to go out alone.*

! We can use the infinitive with or without *to* after *help*:

I'll help you carry those bags. / I'll help you to carry those bags.

Verb + object + infinitive with to

With other verbs we ALWAYS put an object between the first verb and the infinitive:

*advise allow cause encourage forbid force invite permit
persuade recommend remind teach tell order warn*

*Mrs Grant is **teaching Justin to play** the piano.*

*We always **encourage the students to plan** their revision.*

*Can you **remind me to set** the alarm for 6.30 when we go to bed?*



To make the infinitive verb negative we put *not* BEFORE *to*:

*~~X The police persuaded the gunman to not shoot.~~ ✓ The police persuaded the gunman **not to shoot.***

Some verbs (*advise, allow, forbid, permit, recommend*) can also be followed by an *-ing* form as an object

*The management does not **allow staff to smoke.***

*BUT The management does not **allow smoking.***

*We **recommend students to use** a good dictionary.*

*BUT We **recommend using** a good dictionary.*

Verb + infinitive or -ing form

2 Infinitive or -ing form with different meanings

VERB	+ -ing FORM	+ to + INFINITIVE
<i>forget/ remember</i>	for an event or situation in the past: <i>I'll never forget riding my first bike. Do you remember learning to swim?</i>	for something you should do/should have done: <i>Don't forget to lock the back door! Did you remember to bring the CDs?</i>
<i>go on</i>	continue an activity: <i>They stopped, but we went on walking.</i>	change from one action to another: <i>After a slow start, she went on to win the race.</i>
<i>regret</i>	feel sorry about something you did/ didn't do: <i>I regret not studying harder at school.</i>	say sorry, particularly in formal letters: <i>We regret to inform you that you have not been called for interview ...</i>
<i>stop</i>	finish an action: <i>Have you stopped practising now?</i>	finish an action in order to do something else: <i>No, we've just stopped to take a break.</i>
<i>try</i>	do something as an experiment: <i>Try turning it off and on again.</i>	attempt to do something difficult: <i>I'm not an electrician, but I'll try to mend it.</i>

Difference in meaning between the *to*-infinitive and *-ing* form

Some verbs can take either the ***to*-infinitive** or the ***-ing* form** with a change in meaning.

- ***forget* + *to*-infinitive** = not remember
She forgot to bring her tennis racket.
- ***forget* + *-ing* form** = not recall
I'll never forget winning a silver medal.
- ***remember* + *to*-infinitive** = not forget
Did you remember to take your vitamin pills?
- ***remember* + *-ing* form** = recall
I remember telling you about the basketball match yesterday.
- ***mean* + *to*-infinitive** = intend to
He didn't mean to hit you.
- ***mean* + *-ing* form** = involve
Playing sport professionally means training very hard.
- ***regret* + *to*-infinitive** = be sorry to (normally used in the present simple with verbs such as *say, tell, inform*)
I regret to inform you that your request has been denied.
- ***regret* + *-ing* form** = feel sorry about
He regrets not accepting the promotion.
- ***try* + *to*-infinitive** = attempt, do one's best
He tried to jump over the hurdle, but he couldn't.
- ***try* + *-ing* form** = do something as an experiment
Try following a balanced diet. You'll feel fitter.
- ***stop* + *to*-infinitive** = stop temporarily in order to do something else
The marathon runner stopped to have a drink.
- ***stop* + *-ing* form** = finish doing something
Ian stopped eating sugary snacks.
- ***would prefer* + *to*-infinitive** (specific preference)
I'd prefer to go bowling tonight. It's quieter on weekdays.
- ***prefer* + *-ing* form** (general preference)
I prefer swimming in the sea to swimming in a pool.

bare infinitive

after modal verbs +

make and *let*

The verbs *make* and *let* always have an object, and are followed by the infinitive without *to*:

Mrs Grant makes Justin practise every day. (= forces him to)

Our manager lets us work from home once or twice a week. (= allows us to)

The soldiers made the prisoners walk 50 kilometres.

But in the passive, we use *to* before the infinitive. For *let*, we use *allowed to*

The prisoners were made to walk 50 kilometres before they were allowed to sleep.

~~*X ... they weren't let to sleep.*~~ ✓ *They weren't allowed to sleep.*

would rather + infinitive without *to*

After *would rather* we can use the infinitive without *to*. We only use this if the subject of *would rather* and the second verb is the same:

same subject

We'd rather we went by plane. = *We'd rather go by plane.*

The complex object

The Complex Object is used after:

<p>1. <u>the verbs of mental activity</u>: <i>to know, to think, to consider, to believe, to find</i> (считать, полагать), <i>to expect, to suppose</i> (предполагать), <i>to imagine, to feel, to trust, to understand</i>, etc. (more characteristic of literary style) After the verbs <i>to think, to consider, to find</i> the verb <i>to be</i> can be omitted.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> I <i>knew</i> them to be right. Я знал, что они правы.<input type="checkbox"/> We <i>expect</i> them to arrive soon. Мы ожидаем, что они скоро приедут.<input type="checkbox"/> I <i>find</i> him (to be) a very clever man.<input type="checkbox"/> I don't <i>consider</i> him (to be) an honest man.
<p>2. <u>the verbs of declaring</u>: <i>to pronounce, to declare, to report</i>, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> The doctor <i>pronounced</i> the wound to be a slight one. Врач сказал, что рана лёгкая.
<p>3. <u>the verbs denoting wish and intention</u>: <i>to want, to wish, to desire, to mean, to urge, to intend/to choose</i> (= want)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> He <i>intended</i> me to go with him to India. Он хотел, чтобы я поехала с ним в Индию.<input type="checkbox"/> I <i>want</i> you to stop worrying. Я хочу, чтобы ты прекратил волноваться.
<p>4. <u>the verbs denoting feeling and emotion</u>: <i>to like, to love, to dislike, to hate, cannot bear</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Tell me what you <i>would like</i> me to do. Скажи, что бы ты хотела, чтобы я сделал.
<p>5. <u>the verbs denoting order and permission</u>: <i>to order, to allow, to let, to command, to encourage, to ask for, to forbid</i> In most cases after these verbs the Passive Infinitive is used.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> The colonel <i>ordered</i> his men to attack. Полковник приказал своим людям наступать.<input type="checkbox"/> The captain <i>ordered</i> the cases to be loaded. Капитан приказал погрузить ящики.

NB! If the "subject" of the verb and the infinitive is the same person or thing, the corresponding reflexive pronoun should be used.

- Он думал, что он прав. He thought **himself** to be right.

6. The Complex Object is also used after the verbs denoting sense perception: *to hear, to see, to watch, to feel, to observe*, etc. They are always followed by the bare Infinitive (without the particle *to*).

After these verbs only the Simple Infinitive Active is used. If the meaning is passive, we use Participle II.

If the process is expressed, Participle I Active/Passive is used.

- I saw **Brown enter** the room.
Я видел, как Браун вошёл в комнату.
- I felt **the blood rush** into my cheeks.
Я почувствовал, как кровь прилила к моим щекам.
- I saw **the fire slowly conquered**.
Я видел, как пожар постепенно потушили.

- He saw **Fleur coming** to us.
Он видел, как Флёр подходила к нам.
- He watched **his camera being repaired**.
Он наблюдал, как ремонтируют его фотоаппарат.



COMPARE:

Verb + Infinitive

- I saw him **enter** the shop.
(I saw the whole action – he opened the door, went in and disappeared.)

Verb + Participle I

- I saw him **entering** the shop.
(This action was in progress when I saw him.)

NB!

1. The verbs *to see* and *to hear* are followed by a clause (not by the Infinitive Construction) when they are not really verbs of sense perception, i.e. when the verb *to see* means “to understand” and the verb *to hear* – “to learn, to be told”:

- I saw **that she didn't realize** the danger.
Я видел (понимал), что она не осознаёт опасности.
- I heard **that he had left** for the South.
Я слышал (мне сказали), что он уехал на юг.

2. After the verbs *to see* and *to notice* the Complex Object is not used with the verb *to be*, a clause is used in that case:

- I saw **that he was disappointed**.
Я видел, что он разочарован.
- We noticed **that all the teachers were in the hall**.
Мы заметили, что все учителя были в зале.

need, help and can't help + -ing form

The verbs *need* and *help* have different meanings, depending on their form:

I need to drink some water. (+ infinitive with *to* = physical necessity)

This room needs cleaning. (+ *-ing* form = someone should clean it)

I help (to) run the local charity shop. (+ infinitive with *to* = assist, aid)

I couldn't help laughing. (+ *-ing* form = couldn't avoid doing it)

(would) prefer/would rather/had better

I'd prefer to have a salad.

I prefer (playing) football to (playing) tennis.

I'd rather play football than **(play) tennis.**

I'd better cut down on fats.

had better

had better = should

- *I had better + present bare infinitive* (for present/future reference) *You'd better do warm up exercises.* (= You should do warm-up exercises.)
- *It would have been better if + past perfect* (for past reference) *It would have been better if you had rested your sprained ankle.* (= You should have rested your sprained ankle.)

would rather

I would rather = I'd prefer

- When the subject of **would rather** is also the subject of the following verb, we use:
I'd rather + present bare infinitive (for present/future reference) – *I'd rather have my own equipment.*
I'd rather + perfect bare infinitive (for past reference) – *I'd rather have watched the game on TV.*
- When the subject of **would rather** is different from the subject of the following verb, we use:
I'd rather sb + past simple (for present/future reference) – *I'd rather you didn't play computer games all day.*
I'd rather sb + past perfect (for past reference) – *I'd rather you had taken up a team sport.*
- ***prefer + gerund/noun + to + gerund/noun*** (general preference) – *I prefer playing football to doing a martial art.*
- ***prefer + full infinitive + rather than + bare infinitive*** (general preference) – *I prefer to ski rather than snowboard.*
- ***would prefer + full infinitive + rather than + bare infinitive*** (specific preference) – *I'd prefer to celebrate at home rather than go to a restaurant.*
- ***would rather + bare infinitive + than + bare infinitive*** *I'd rather jog in the park than join a gym.*

You can add any table here