

Grammar

Present simple, present continuous, stative verbs



B

C

Present simple

statement	
I/you/we/they play	
He/she/it plays	

negative

I/you/we/they do not (don't) play ... He/she/it does not (doesn't) play ...

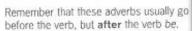
question

Do L/you/we/they play ...? Does he/she/it play ...?

Example Use Present habits Marsha goes to dance lessons every Saturday. Does Dan work at the cinema? Permanent situations I like the new James Bond film. States You play chess with 32 pieces. General truths

The present simple is often used with the following words and phrases: adverbs

- always = usually = often
- sometimes = rarely = never
- every Monday/week/etc
- each Monday/week/etc
- once/twice a week/month/etc
- three times a week/month/etc



- I often play football with my friends.
- I am often late for my piano lessons.

The verbs be and have have irregular present forms. See page 182.

Present continuous

statement
l am ('m) playing
He/she/it is ('s) playing
You/we/they are ('re) playing

negative am not ('m not) playing ...

He/she/it is not (isn't / 's not) playing ... You/we/they are not (aren't / 're not) playing ...

question

Am | playing ...? Is he/she/it playing ...? Are you/we/they playing ...?

Use	Example
Actions happening now	Jan is watching a DVD upstairs.
Temporary situations	She is working at the museum until the end of the month.
Annoying habits (usually with always)	My brother is always borrowing my CDs without asking!

The present continuous is often used with the following words and phrases:

- * now * right now * at the moment
- today * this week/month/etc

Stative verbs

Stative verbs do not usually describe actions. They describe states (feelings, thoughts, etc). They are not normally used in continuous tenses.

- ✓ I like reading books in my free time.
- x I am liking reading books in my free time.

Some common stative verbs:

June comm	HOW AVERTIN
appear	include
be	know
believe	like
belong to	love
hata	need

prefer

see seem taste think understand want



Some of these verbs (such as be, have and think) are used in continuous tenses when they describe actions.

- ✓ What do you think about his new song?
- ✓ I'm thinking about last night's match.

	The second		1	Every day, Helen gets up at half pass
OMA	200	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		seven.
7 1			2	
eve	ry day / get up / at half	once a week / watch a film		***************************************
	st seven	of the cinema	3	
E7	162		9	
Sa	是是	NEW Y	4	
4				
ofte	on / eat fast load for	rarely / go to the gym	5	
lun		Maria		
16	STONE OF LOW	o' / Association	6	***************************************
198		MA A		
1				
in	the evening / usually /	have a driving lesson /		
me	eet her friends for coffee	twice a week		
Y (Gordon? I think he	ome negative forms.	e) a let	ter at the moment.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Gordon? I think he Yes, the match is on T' Right now, Margaret Sally Josh	/ write / now, but we(ha(stay) with her aun(lie)! It's true! I did see(always / use) m	ve) a let ve) a s it for a Mador y bike!	ter at the moment(lose). shower. Do you want to ring later? few days. nna at the supermarket. It's so annoying, ne round and help you later.
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You 1 2 3 4 4 5 5 6 6 7 8 8 1 2 3 4 4 5 5 6 6 6 7 8 8 6 7 8 8 7 8 8 7 8 8 7 8 8 8 8	Gordon? I think he	(write / now, but we	ve) a let ve) a s t for a Mador y bike! an con there? es in l ots of c he TV I k for the ss this	ter at the moment. (lose). shower. Do you want to ring later? few days. nna at the supermarket. It's so annoying, ne round and help you later. It's really noisy!
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- D Circle the correct word or phrase.
 - 1 I work / am working at the local library for the summer.
 - 2 We don't go / aren't going to the theatre very often.
 - 3 Stacy gets / is getting ready for school, so she can't come to the phone.
 - 4 Does Gary ever talk / Is Gary ever talking about his expedition to the Amazon jungle?
 - 5 In squash, you hit / are hitting a ball against a wall.
 - 6 I read / am reading a newspaper at least once a week.
 - 7 Do you practise / Are you practising the piano for two hours every day?
 - 8 Nadine and Claire do / are doing guite well at school at the moment.
 - 9 A good friend knows / is knowing when you're upset about something.
 - 10 How do you spell / are you spelling your name?
- Complete using the correct present simple or present continuous form of the verbs in the box. You may have to use some negative forms.

- 1 In Monopoly, you around the board, buying houses and hotels.
- 2you this programme or can I turn the TV off?
- 3 Regular exercise ________you to stay healthy.
- 4 | my brother's guitar until I get a new one.
- 6 _____ you ____ any sweaters in a larger size?
- 7 You the kite right. Let me show you.
- 8 Dad to the local astronomy club.
- F Underline ten verbs in the wrong tense and rewrite them correctly.

'One game I am loving is backgammon. You are throwing the dice and then you move your pieces around the board. It is seeming quite easy, but in fact you are needing to be quite careful. When your piece lands on one of the other person's pieces, you are taking it off the board and you send it back to the beginning. You are winning by getting all your pieces to the end and off the board. Some people are preferring chess, but I am not understanding that game. Right now, I wait to have a game with my brother. He does his homework. I usually win, so I think he doesn't want to play a game with me!'

10._____