

# Simple Present or Present Continuous ?

## 1. Simple present

### When do we use present simple ?

The simple present is used

- to talk about things that usually happen.
- to talk about generalities or scientific facts
- It is used for events scheduled in the near future.
- It is used for instructions (in imperative).



## Present Simple Structure

### + How to Make the Simple Present Affirmative

Subject + verb + Complement.

Subject	Verb	Complement
I	eat	a pizza.
You	go	to the cinema.
He	watches	his favorite TV program at night.
She	learns	english.
It	cleans	alone.
We	work	today.
You	travel	to Brazil.
They	run	in the park.

## – How to Make the Simple Present Negative

Subject + do/does + not + verb + complement

Subject	Do-not / Does-not	Verb	Complement
I	do not	eat	a pizza.
You	do not	go	to the cinema.
He	does not	watch	TV.
She	does not	learn	english.
It	does not	clean	alone.
We	do not	work	today.
You	do not	travel	to Brazil.
They	do not	run	in the park.

## ? How to Make the Simple Present Questions

Do/Does + Subject + verb + complement.

Do/Does	Subject	Verb	Complement ?
Do	I	eat	a pizza?
Do	You	go	to the cinema
Does	He	watch	TV?
Does	She	learn	english?
Does	It	clean	alone?
Do	We	work	today?
Do	You	travel	to Brazil?
Do	They	run	in the park?

## Present Simple and Present Continuous : what's the difference?

Present Simple	Present Continuous
Things which are <b>always true</b> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water boils at 100 degrees.</li> </ul>	Things which are <b>happening at the moment</b> of speaking: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The water is boiling now, so you can put in the pasta.</li> </ul>
<b>Permanent situations</b> (or nearly permanent; true for a few years at least): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Julie lives in London.</li> </ul>	<b>Temporary situations</b> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Julie is living in Paris for a few months (usually she lives in London).</li> </ul>
<b>Habits</b> or things we do regularly: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I drink coffee every morning.</li> </ul>	<b>Temporary</b> or new habits: <p>I'm drinking too much coffee these days because I'm so busy at work.</p>
<b>Future events</b> which are part of a <b>timetable</b> : <p>My plane leaves at eight tonight.</p>	<b>Definite</b> future plans: <p>I'm meeting John after class today.</p>

## Present simple

**Subject + Verb(s)**

I have breakfast every morning

## Present continuous

**Subject + be + Verb+ing**

I'm learning English right now

### Signal words:

always  
every day / week / year  
often  
normally  
usually  
sometimes  
seldom  
never  
first  
then

at the moment  
at this moment  
today  
now  
right now  
Listen!  
Look!

## 2. Present continuous

Here is how we make the positive:

### Positive

I **am** sleeping  
you **are** sleeping  
he **is** sleeping  
she **is** sleeping  
it **is** sleeping  
we **are** sleeping  
they **are** sleeping

### Positive Short Form

I'**m** sleeping  
you'**re** sleeping  
he'**s** sleeping  
she'**s** sleeping  
it'**s** sleeping  
we'**re** sleeping  
they'**re** sleeping

We can make the negative by adding 'not':

#### Negative

I **am not** sleeping  
you **are not** playing  
he **is not** reading  
she **is not** working  
it **is not** raining  
we **are not** cooking  
they **are not** listening

#### Negative Short Form

I'**m not** sleeping  
you **aren't** playing  
he **isn't** reading  
she **isn't** working  
it **isn't** raining  
we **aren't** cooking  
they **aren't** listening

## Questions

#### Yes / No Questions

**am** I eat**ing** chocolate ?  
**are** you study**ing** now ?  
**is** he work**ing** ?  
**is** she do**ing** her homework ?  
**is** it rain**ing** ?  
**are** we meet**ing** at six ?  
**are** they com**ing** ?

#### Wh Questions

Why **am** I eat**ing** chocolate ?  
What **are** you study**ing** now ?  
When **is** he work**ing** ?  
What **is** she do**ing** ?  
Why **is** it rain**ing** ?  
Who **are** we meet**ing** ?  
How **are** they travell**ing** ?

## Extra material

Video lesson :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X6LuWwb9whM>

Online exercises :

[https://www.english-grammar.at/online\\_exercises/tenses/t132-present-tense.htm](https://www.english-grammar.at/online_exercises/tenses/t132-present-tense.htm)

<https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/present-simple-present-continuous-1.html>