

How to Use Let and Make

Gero Zayas

<https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/let-and-make.html>

Let

Subject + let + object + bare infinitive (infinitive without 'to')

'Let' can mean 'allow' or 'give permission':

*David's mother let him use her car.
Our boss let us leave early.*

**We can also use 'let' to mean 'allow' in the sense of
'make something possible':**

*This student card lets you book discount flights.
You can buy a pass which lets you visit all the art galleries more cheaply.*

**Let's + infinitive is often used to make a
suggestion:**

*Let's go to the cinema tonight.
Let's get some coffee.*

Make

Subject + make + object + bare infinitive (infinitive without 'to')

'Make' can mean 'force someone to do something that he or she doesn't want to do':

*His mother made him clean his room.
The teacher made us study very hard.*

It can also be used to mean 'cause someone to do something' (the thing can be good or bad):

*That film made me cry.
My brother often makes me laugh.*

If we use 'make' in the passive, we use the infinitive with 'to' instead of the bare infinitive:

She was made to work on Saturday, even though she hated working at weekends.

We can also use subject + make + object + adjective. This means 'cause the object to be the adjective' (the adjective can be good or bad):

*Her story made me really happy.
The traffic jam made us late.*

Exercise for Let and Make

<https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/let-or-make-exercise-1.html>