**Infinitive Forms**

* An infinitive is the part of a [verb](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/latin/stage-2-latin/resources/stage-2-glossary-of-english-terms/#verb) which is unaffected by person or number. In English, this part of a verb is easily recognized as it is preceded by “to” (e.g., “to call”).
* When you look up a [Latin](https://www.thoughtco.com/english-latin-translation-119483) verb in a Latin–English dictionary, you will see four entries ([principal parts](https://www.thoughtco.com/principal-parts-of-latin-verbs-121418)) for most verbs. The second entry—usually abbreviated "-*are*," "-*ere*," or "-*ire*"—is the infinitive.

**Most verbs have six infinitives,** which have tense and voice, including:

* present Active (to praise)
* present Passive (to have been praised)
* perfect Active (to have praised)
* perfect Passive (to have been praised)
* future Active (to be about to praise)
* future Passive (to be about to be praised)

**Present Active Infinitive**

In a dictionary, the [present](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/latin/stage-2-latin/resources/stage-2-glossary-of-english-terms/#presenttense) Active infinitive form of a verb is shown as the second [principal part](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/latin/stage-2-latin/resources/stage-2-glossary-of-english-terms/#principalpart) and we have come across it several times already.

voco, ***vocare***, vocavi, vocatus,-a,-um = to call

Normally the ending for first [conjugation](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/latin/stage-2-latin/resources/stage-2-glossary-of-english-terms/#conjugation) verbs is “-are”; second conjugation verbs “–ere”; third conjugation verbs “-ere”; and fourth conjugation verbs “-ire.”

More specifically, it's the present Active infinitive, which is translated into English as "to" plus whatever the verb means.

Infinitive Endings for Conjugation Identification:

1st Conjugation: -are

2nd Conjugation: -ere

3rd Conjugation: -ere

4th Conjugation: -ire

**Present Passive Infinitive**

* This one is formed by dropping the *-e* from the second principal part of the verb and adding *-i (portari)*.
* The third conjugation is the exception to the rule. In the third conjugation, drop the entire infinitive ending and add -i (*regere* becomes *regi*).
* It is translated to be *(verb)*-ed: *portari* = to (infinitive) be (Passive voice) carried (definition); *regi* = to (infinitive) be (Passive voice) ruled (definition)

**Perfect Infinitives**

* The **perfect Active** infinitive is formed by adding *–isse* to the perfect stem (*portav*- becomes *portavisse*).
* The **perfect Passive** infinitive uses the perfect Passive participle (the fourth principal part) and *esse* (*portatus esse*).
* They are translated (Active) "to have *(verb)*-ed": *portavisse* = to (infinitive) have (perfect tense) carried (definition) and (Passive) *portatus esse* = to (infinitive) have (perfect tense) been (Passive voice) carried (definition).

**Future Infinitives**

* The **future Active** infinitive is formed by using the future participle and *esse* (*portaturus esse*).
* The **future Active** infinitive is formed by using the perfect Passive participle and *iri* (*portatus iri*).
* They are translated (Active) "to be going to *(verb)*': *portaturus esse* = to (infinitive) be going to (future tense) carry (definition) and (Passive) "to be going to be (verb)-ed": *portatus iri* = to (infinitive) be going to (future) be carried (definition).

## **Infinitives of Conjugated Latin Verbs**

In Latin, verbs are conjugated to indicate voice, person, number, mood, time, and tense. There are four conjugations, or verb inflection groups.

Infinitives of a **first conjugation** Latin verb include:

* present Active—clamare (to shout)
* present Passive—clamari
* perfect Active—clamavisse
* perfect Passive—clamatus esse
* future Active—clamaturus esse
* future Passive—clamtum iri

Infinitives of a **second conjugation** Latin verb include:

* present Active—terrere (to frighten)
* present Passive—terreri
* perfect Active—terruisse
* perfect Passive—territus esse
* future Active—territurus esse
* future Passive—territum iri

Infinitives of a **third conjugation** Latin verb include:

* present Active—legere (to read)
* present Passive—legi
* perfect Active—lexisse
* perfect Passive— lectus esse
* future Active— lecturus esse
* future Passive—lectum iri

Infinitives of a **fourth conjugation** Latin verb include:

* present Active—*sent*ire (to feel)
* present Passive—sentiri
* perfect Active—sensisse
* perfect Passive—sensus esse
* future Active—sensurus esse
* future Passive—sensum iri

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| ****The Five Infinitives:****  Here is the overall synopsis of all Infinitive forms. Memorize these forms and you will be golden!  *porto, portare, portavi, portatus, -a, -um* – to carry *moneo, monere, monui, monitus, -a, -um* – to warn *rego, regere, rexi, rectus, -a, -um* – to rule *sentio, sentire, sensi, sensus, -a, -um* – to feel | | | |
| Active | | Passive | |
| Present | port**are**(to carry) mon**ere** (to warn) reg**ere** (to rule) sent**ire** (to feel) | **Present** | port**ari**(to be carried) mon**eri**(to be warned) reg**i** (to be ruled) sent**iri** (to be felt) |
| Perfect | portav**isse** (to have carried) monu**isse** (to have warned) rex**isse** (to have ruled) sens**isse** (to have felt) | **Perfect** | portat**us**, -**a, -um esse** (to have been carried) monit**us, -a, -um esse** (to have been warned) rect**us,** -**a, -um esse** (to have been ruled) sens**us, -a, -um esse** (to have been felt) |
| Future | portat**urum esse** (to be about to carry) monit**urum esse** (to be about to warn) rect**urum esse** (to be about to rule) sens**urus esse** (to be about to feel) | **Future** | portat**um** **iri** (to be about to be carried)  monit**um** **iri** (to be about to be warned)  rect**um** **iri** (to be about to be ruled)  sens**um** **iri** (to be about to be felt) |