

Verbs with –ing forms and infinitives

Professional Communication – 2TIN

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Verb + -ing form – general rule

- Verb (+ adverb/preposition) + -ing form
 - When we use **two verbs** together, the second verb is **often** in the –ing form.
 - **After verbs with adverbs/prepositions** (e.g. give up, think of), the second verb is **always** in the –ing form

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Verb + -ing form

- Verb (+ adverb/preposition) + -ing form

	Common verbs
Likes and dislikes	Dislike/can't stand/enjoy/hate*/like*/love*/(not) mind/prefer*
Ideas and opinions	Admit/consider/imagine/look forward to/recommend/suggest/think of
Actions that start, stop or continue	Begin*/continue*/delay/give up/start*/stop*/finish/keep(on)/practise/put off/spend (time)
Others	Avoid/can't help/deny/involve/mention/miss/risk

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Verb + -ing form

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- In the verb *look forward to*, *to* is a preposition, so we use an -ing form:
 - ~~*I'm looking forward to see you again*~~
 - *I'm looking forward to seeing you again*



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Verb + -ing form

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- 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.*
 - **Passive:** *Don't ring after 10.30 – I hate **being woken up** by the phone!*



The *-ing* form as subject, and as object

- Subject of a sentence
 - **Swimming** is a good all-round exercise
- Object of a sentence
 - My job involves **listening** to music

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Go + -ing form; do the/some + -ing form

- We sometimes use go + -ing form to talk about doing sports and other activities
 - I **go shopping**, it's the best way to relax!

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Verb + -ing form

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- We usually use go+ -ing form where there is a verb for the activity:
 - *I sail → I go sailing*
- Where the activity is a game, or does not have a verb form, we use play or do:
 - *I play football.*
 - *I do karate.*



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Verb + -ing form

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We use *do + the/some* with *-ing* forms to talk about work in the home

– Have you done the *ironing*?



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Verb + infinitive

- We use the infinitive without *to* after modal verbs (e.g. *can, will*)
 - We *can use* the swimming pool after 8.00 a.m.
- After the verb *help* we can use the infinitive with or without *to*. There is no change in meaning
 - I'll *help pack* your rucksack

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Verb + infinitive with to

	Verbs
Mental states or activity	Agree/choose/decide/forget*/learn/ Remember*/want/wish
Future arrangements	Aim/arrange/expect/hope/offer/plan/prepare/ promise/refuse/threaten
Appearance	Appear/pretend/seem/tend
Other	Attempt (can/can't) afford/ask/deserve/fail/offer/try*

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Verb (+ object) + infinitive with to

- The infinitive sometimes needs to be
 - **Negative:** She appears **not to worry** about her weight.
 - **Continuous:** I expect **to be earning** a lot of money when I'm forty!
 - **Perfect:** We plan **to have finished** all of the decorating by July.
 - **Passive:** Jack drives over the speed limit all the time – he deserves **to be caught**.

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

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

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Verb (+ object) + infinitive; make and let

- 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
Sami wants to find a better job	Sami wants his son/him to find a better job.
I didn't intend to spend so much money.	I didn't intend Lara/her to spend so much money.

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Verb (+ object) + infinitive with to

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- We don't use a *that* clause after these verbs:
 - ~~We begged Antonia that she didn't go out alone.~~
 - We begged Antonia to not go out alone.



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Verb (+ object) + infinitive with to

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- 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.



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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.

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Verb (+ object) + infinitive with to

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- To make the infinitive verb negative we put *not* before *to*
 - ~~The police persuaded the gunman to not shoot.~~
 - The police persuaded the gunman not to shoot.



Verb (+ object) + infinitive with to

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- 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*.



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.
- 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.
 - ~~They weren't let to sleep.~~

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Verb + infinitive or –ing form

- Infinitive or –ing form with similar meanings
 - After the verbs 'begin', 'continue', 'hate', 'intend', 'like', 'love', 'prefer' and 'start', we can use an infinitive or –ing form with little difference in meaning:
 - Oh no! It's just started to rain!
 - Oh no! It's just started raining.
 - Notice this small difference in British English with like:
 - We like inviting friends to dinner at the weekend.
 - I like to save a little bit of money every month.

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Infinitive or –ing form with different meanings

Verb	+ -ing form	+ to + infinitive
Forget/ Remember	<i>For an event or situation in the past:</i> I'll never forget riding my first bike.	<i>For sth you should do/should have done:</i> Don't forget to lock the back door!
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.
Regret	<i>Feel sorry about sth 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...

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Infinitive or –ing form with different meanings

Verb	+ -ing form	+ to + infinitive
Stop	<i>Finish an action:</i> Have you stopped practising now?	<i>Finish an action in order to do sth else</i> No, we've just stopped to take a break.
Try	<i>Do sth as an experiment:</i> Try turning it off and on again.	<i>Attempt to do sth difficult:</i> I'm not an electrician, but I'll try to mend it.

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Feel, hear, see, etc + infinitive or –ing form

- After sense verbs (e.g. feel, hear, see) we can use:
 - object + infinitive without *to*
 - Object + -ing form
- The meaning is slightly different:
 - We were watching the runway and saw your plane arrive.
 - We saw your plane arriving as we parked the car.

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

- The verbs *need* and *help* have different meaning, depending on their form:
 - I need to drink some water.
 - This room needs cleaning.
 - I help (to) run the local charity shop.
 - I couldn't help laughing.

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