

al·ways

S1 W1

/ˈɔːlweɪz, -weɪz \$ ˈɒl-/

adverb

1 ALWAYS/EVERY TIME all the time, at all times, or every time:

Always lock your bicycle to something secure.

She'd always assumed that Gabriel was a girl's name.

He hadn't always been a butler.

2 LONG TIME for a very long time:

I've always wanted to go to Paris.

John's always been keen on music.

3 ALWAYS/FOREVER for ever:

I'll always remember that day.

4 KEEP DOING SOMETHING if someone or something is always doing something, they do it often, especially in an annoying way:

That woman next door's always complaining.

5 **always assuming/supposing (that) something** (BrE)

used to say that one important fact has to be accepted as true for something else to happen, be true etc:

We'll leave on Tuesday – always assuming the car's repaired by then.

6 **as always**

as is usual or expected:

The truth, as always, is more complicated.

As always, Deborah was the last to arrive.

7 **can/could always do something** (also there's always something) (spoken)

used to make a polite suggestion:

You could always try ringing again.

If you can't get it locally, there's always the Internet.

8 somebody always was lucky/untidy etc

used to say you are not surprised by what someone has done because it is typical of them:

You always were a stubborn creature.

He's a troublemaker! Always was and always will be!

THESAURUS

always all the time, at all times, or every time: *I will always love you.* | *He always carries his medicine.* | *People will always need houses.*

forever (also **for ever** *BrE*) if something lasts or continues forever, it remains or continues for all future time: *Nothing lasts forever.* | *He seemed to think he would live forever.*

permanently always, or for a very long time – used about changes that you expect to last forever. **Permanently** can be used with a verb or with an adjective: *His eyesight may be permanently damaged.* | *They decided to move to Portugal permanently.*

for life for the rest of your life: *Marriage is supposed to be for life.* | *He was sent to jail for life.* | *Remarks like that can affect someone for life.*

for good (especially *spoken*) forever – used to talk about a permanent change: *This time, he's coming back for good.* | *Once a species dies out, it is gone for good.*

for all time forever – used when saying that something will last or be remembered forever because it is very good or special: *Their deeds will be remembered for all time.*

to/until your dying day for the rest of your life – used when something has affected you very deeply: *I'll remember what he said to my dying day.*

Grammar

Always usually comes before the verb, unless the verb is a simple tense of 'be', or after the first auxiliary:

I always wanted to be an engineer.

He is always cheerful.

Education in Britain has always been considered some of the best in the world.

always, still

Use **still**, not **always**, to say that a previous situation has not changed, and is continuing at the time of speaking:

He still lives (NOT always lives) with his parents.

Word origin

Date: 1300–1400

Language: Old English

Origin: *ealne weg* 'all the way'

Al·ways

/ˈɔːlweɪz/

(trademark)

a type of SANITARY PAD known for having 'wings' 'wings' (= pieces of tape on the sides of the towel for sticking to a woman's pants)

Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English

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