**WH Question Words**

We use question words to ask certain types of questions ([question word questions](https://www.englishclub.com/grammar/questions.htm#type)).

We often refer to these words as *WH words* because they include the letters *WH* (for example *WHy, HoW*).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **question word** | **function** | **example sentence** |
| what | asking for information about something | What is your name? |
| asking for repetition or confirmation | What? I can't hear you. You did what? |
| what...for | asking for a reason, asking why | What did you do that for? |
| when | asking about time | When did he leave? |
| where | asking in or at what place or position | Where do they live? |
| which | asking about choice | Which colour do you want? |
| who | asking what or which person or people (subject) | Who opened the door? |
| whom | asking what or which person or people (object) | Whom did you see? |
| whose | asking about ownership | Whose are these keys? Whose turn is it? |
| why | asking for reason, asking what...for | Why do you say that? |
| why don't | making a suggestion | Why don't I help you? |
| how | asking about manner | How does this work? |
| asking about condition or quality | How was your exam? |
| how + adj/adv | asking about extent or degree | see examples below |
| how far | distance | How far is Pattaya from Bangkok? |
| how long | length (time or space) | How long will it take? |
| how many | quantity (countable) | How many cars are there? |
| how much | quantity (uncountable) | How much money do you have? |
| how old | age | How old are you? |
| how come (informal) | asking for reason, asking why | How come I can't see her? |