

Verb + **to ...** (**decide to ... / forget to ...** etc.)

A

offer	decide	hope	deserve	promise
agree	plan	manage	afford	threaten
refuse	arrange	fail	forget	learn

After these verbs you can use **to ...** (*infinitive*):

- ☐ It was late, so we **decided to take** a taxi home.
- ☐ Simon was in a difficult situation, so I **agreed to help** him.
- ☐ How old were you when you **learnt to drive**? (*or learnt how to drive*)
- ☐ I waved to Karen, but **failed to attract** her attention.

The negative is **not to ...**:

- ☐ We **decided not to go** out because of the weather.
- ☐ I **promised not to be** late.

After some verbs **to ...** is not possible. For example, **enjoy/think/suggest**:

- ☐ I **enjoy reading**. (*not enjoy to read*)
- ☐ Andy **suggested meeting** for coffee. (*not suggested to meet*)
- ☐ Are you **thinking of buying** a car? (*not thinking to buy*)

For verb + **-ing**, see Unit 53. For verb + preposition + **-ing**, see Unit 62.

B

After **dare** you can use the infinitive with or without **to**:

- ☐ I wouldn't **dare to tell** him. *or* I wouldn't **dare tell** him.

But after **dare not** (*or daren't*), you must use the infinitive without **to**:

- ☐ I **daren't tell** him what happened. (*not I daren't to tell him*)

C

We also use **to ...** after:

seem appear tend pretend claim

For example:

- ☐ They **seem to have** plenty of money.
- ☐ I like Dan, but I think he **tends to talk** too much.
- ☐ Ann **pretended not to see** me when she passed me in the street.

There is also a *continuous* infinitive (**to be doing**) and a *perfect* infinitive (**to have done**):

- ☐ I **pretended to be reading** the paper. (= I pretended that I **was reading**)
- ☐ You **seem to have lost** weight. (= it seems that you **have lost** weight)
- ☐ Joe **seems to be enjoying** his new job. (= it seems that he **is enjoying** it)

D

After some verbs you can use a question word (**what/whether/how** etc.) + **to ...**:

We use this structure especially after:

ask decide know remember forget explain learn understand wonder

We asked	how	to get	to the station.
Have you decided	where	to go	for your holidays?
I don't know	whether	to apply	for the job or not.
Do you understand	what	to do?	

Also

show/tell/ask/advise/teach somebody **what/how/where** to do something:

- ☐ Can somebody **show me how to use** this camera?
- ☐ Ask Jack. He'll **tell you what to do**.