

# The Present Simple Tense

(also called the simple present tense) **Simple present tense with 'be'**

The verb **'be'** is different from the other verbs in this tense. Let's look at **'be'** first:

Here's the **positive** form (positive means a normal sentence, not a negative or a question. This is sometimes called 'affirmative')

<b>Positive</b>	<b>Positive Short Form</b>
I <b>am</b>	I' <b>m</b>
you <b>are</b>	you' <b>re</b>
he <b>is</b>	he' <b>s</b>
she <b>is</b>	she' <b>s</b>
it <b>is</b>	it' <b>s</b>

we <b>are</b>	we're
they <b>are</b>	they're

Next, here's the **negative**. It's very easy. You only add '**not**'.

<b>Negative</b>	<b>Negative short form</b>
I <b>am not</b>	I'm <b>not</b>
you <b>are not</b>	you <b>aren't</b>
he <b>is not</b>	he <b>isn't</b>
she <b>is not</b>	she <b>isn't</b>
it <b>is not</b>	it <b>isn't</b>

we <b>are not</b>	we <b>aren't</b>
they <b>are not</b>	they <b>aren't</b>

And finally let's talk about the **question** form of the present simple with '**be**'.

Firstly, here's the '**yes / no**' **question** form:

<b>Yes / No Questions</b>
<b>am</b> I ?
<b>are</b> you ?
<b>is</b> he ?
<b>is</b> she ?
<b>is</b> it ?

**are** we ?

**are** they ?

If you'd like to make a '**wh**' **question**, you just put the question word at the front:

<b>Wh Questions</b>	
where	<b>am</b> I ?
what	<b>are</b> you ?
why	<b>is</b> he ?
who	<b>is</b> she ?
when	<b>are</b> we ?
how	<b>are</b> they ?

## Present simple tense with other verbs

With all other verbs, we make the present simple in the same way.

The **positive** is really easy. It's just the verb with an extra **'s'** if the subject is 'he', 'she', or 'it'. Let's take the verb 'play' as an example:

<b>Positive (of 'play')</b>
I <b>play</b>
you <b>play</b>
he <b>plays</b>
she <b>plays</b>
it <b>plays</b>
we <b>play</b>

they **play**

- Don't forget the **'s'**! Even really advanced students do this!
- For a few verbs, there is a spelling change before the **'s'**. For example, **'study'** becomes **'studies'** . .
- There are also few verbs which are irregular in the present simple:
  1. **'have'** becomes **'has'**
  2. **'do'** becomes **'does'**
  3. **'go'** becomes **'goes'**

To make the **negative** form, you need to use 'do not' (don't) or ' does not' (doesn't).

<b>Negative (of 'play')</b>	
I <b>do not</b> play	I <b>don't</b> play
you <b>do not</b> play	you <b>don't</b> play
he <b>does not</b> play	he <b>doesn't</b> play
she <b>does not</b> play	she <b>doesn't</b> play

it <b>does not</b> play	it <b>doesn't</b> play
we <b>do not</b> play	we <b>don't</b> play
they <b>do not</b> play	they <b>don't</b> play

How about the **question** form of the present simple tense?

We use 'do' or 'does' before the subject to make the **'yes / no' question**:

<b>Yes / No questions</b>
<b>do</b> I <b>play</b> ?
<b>do</b> you <b>play</b> ?
<b>does</b> he <b>play</b> ?
<b>does</b> she <b>play</b> ?

**does** it **play** ?

**do** we **play** ?

**do** they **play** ?

Just like with 'be', if you'd like to make a '**wh**' **question**, you just put the question word at the front:

<b>Wh Questions</b>	
where	<b>do</b> I <b>play</b> ?
what	<b>do</b> you <b>play</b> ?
why	<b>does</b> he <b>play</b> ?
who	<b>does</b> she <b>play</b> ?
when	<b>do</b> we <b>play</b> ?



how

**do** they **play** ?