

No, none and none of

No and none of are determiners. None is a pronoun. No, none and none of indicate negation.

a, No

We use no directly before nouns:

I've got **no** time to waste.

There are **no** people I recognise here.

She says she has **no** friends.

None

None is the pronoun form of no. None means 'not one' or 'not any'. We use it as a pronoun to replace countable and uncountable nouns. We use it as subject or object:

Slorne stared ... and seemed to try to find some strength which would let her speak. But **none** came. (No strength came.)

My mother had two brothers. My father had **none**. (My father didn't have any brothers.)

A:

What reasons did he give?

B:

None.

When *none* is the subject, the verb is either singular or plural depending on what it is referring to.

*I'm always looking for inspiration. **None** ever comes.*

*She's always looking for ideas. **None** ever come.*

Warning:

We don't use *none* where we mean *no one* or *nobody*:

*They had a wonderful time and luckily **no one** was injured.*

Not: ... ~~and luckily none was injured.~~

None of

We use *none of* **before the, demonstratives (this, that), possessives (my, your) or pronouns:**

***None of** his old friends knew what had happened to him.*

*It doesn't matter. **None of** it was your fault.*

We don't use *none of* when there is already a negative word (*not, n't*) in the clause:

*She doesn't remember **any of** us.*

Not: ~~She doesn't remember none of us.~~

Warning:

When we are referring to two things or people, we use *neither of* rather than *none of*:

We sat down at the table, just the two of us. He carried on eating his food.
Neither of us said anything.

Not: ~~None of us said anything.~~

In formal styles, we use *none of* with a singular verb when it is the subject. However, in informal speaking, people often use plural verbs:

None of that surprises me.

Indeed, **none of** his novels is well shaped or well written.

None of the products have been tested on animals and all the bottles are recyclable. (informal)

EXERCISE 1:

Complete these sentences with **no**, **none** or **any**.

1 It was a public holiday, so there were no shops open.

2 I haven't got any money. Can you lend the some?

3 We had to walk home because there were.... taxis.

4 We had to walk home because there weren't.... taxis.

5 "How many eggs have we got? " "..... . Do you want me to get some? "

6 We took a few photographs but.... of them were very good.

7 What a stupid thing to do! intelligent person would do such a
thing.

8 I'll try and answer.... questions you ask me.

9 I couldn't answer.... of the questions they asked me.

10 We cancelled the party because.... of the people we invited were able
to come.

11 I tried to phone Chrsis but there was.... answer.

EXERCISE 2:

Complete these sentences with **no-** or **any- + -body/-thing/-where**.

1 I don't want anything to drink. I'm not thirsty.

2 The bus was completely empty. There was.... on it.

3 "Where did you go for your holidays? " "..... I stayed at home. "

4 I went to the shops but I didn't buy.

5 "What did you buy? " "..... I couldn't find.... I wanted. "

6 The town is still the same as it was years ago.... has changed.

7 Have you seen my watch? I can't find it.....

8 There was complete silence in the room.... said....