

41 make or do

A make and do: general differences

Here are two common meanings of **make**:

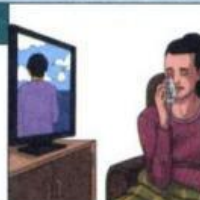
1 produce or create sth:

The factory **makes** cars.
I'm **making** a cake for Tom's birthday.
This shirt is **made of** cotton.



2 produce a change in sb or sth:

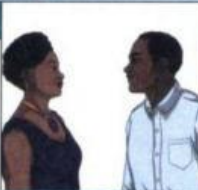
Chocolate **makes** you fat.
Romantic films sometimes **make** me cry.
The book **made** them laugh.



Here are two common meanings of **do** as an ordinary verb (not an auxiliary verb):

1 used about activities:

What are you **doing** this evening?
I didn't **do** much at the weekend.



2 have a job, or study sth:

What do you **do**?
~ I'm a doctor.
I want to **do** medicine at university.



1 Put the words in the correct order to make sentences.

- ▶ did / what / do / yesterday / you What did you do yesterday ?
- 1 does / his / wife / do / what ?
- 2 makes / his / software / company / programs .
- 3 make / does / you / why / English / tired ?
- 4 school / Spanish / to / I / next / want / year / do / at .
- 5 is / jumper / of / made / this / wool ?
- 6 you / night / did / do / what / last ?

2 Complete the sentences with the correct form of **do** or **make**.

- ▶ The long walk made the children tired.
- 1 These shoes are _____ of leather.
- 2 She doesn't work at the bank any more. ~ Oh. What does she _____ now?
- 3 Matthew wants to _____ law when he goes to university.
- 4 Flying _____ me nervous.
- 5 I've just _____ sandwiches for lunch. Is that OK?
- 6 Cheese is _____ from milk.
- 7 What are you going to _____ next year?
- 8 My nephew wants to _____ a film about his school.

3 ABOUT YOU Write your answers, or ask another student.

- 1 What kinds of things are made in your country? _____
- 2 Do you ever make things for other people, e.g. clothes? _____
- 3 Do films or music ever make you cry? _____
- 4 What subjects did you do at school? (or are you doing at school?) _____
- 5 What are you doing this evening? _____
- 6 What did you do last weekend? _____

4 Look at the example sentences at the top of the page. How would you translate **make** and **do** in each sentence? If possible, talk to somebody who speaks your own language.



B Do or make?

Both **do** and **make** are used with a number of nouns with the meaning 'perform an action'.

do + action:	make + action:
your best	the bed
exercise [U] (in the gym)	a decision
exercises (in class)	a mistake
the housework [U]	money
your homework [U]	a noise
the shopping	sense



do exercise



do the housework



do your homework

GLOSSARY

do your best	do all that you can: <i>I may not finish the work today, but I'll do my best.</i>
make a decision	choose what you want to do
make money	get money, often from work: <i>She made a lot of money when she worked in America.</i>
make a noise	make a sound, especially one that is loud and not nice
make sense	be possible to understand: <i>This sentence doesn't make sense.</i>

5 Underline the correct verb.

- ▶ I always try to do / make my best.
- 1 Have you done / made the shopping?
- 2 I make / do most of the housework at the weekend.
- 3 Don't become a teacher if you want to do / make a lot of money.
- 4 The children did / made a lot of noise last night.
- 5 We did / made a couple of grammar exercises in class.
- 6 Mia did / made a terrible mistake in her essay.
- 7 This exercise doesn't do / make sense.
- 8 I have to do / make a decision soon about the flat.

6 Match 1-5 with a-f.

- ▶ do exercise d
- 1 make sense e
- 2 make a mistake f
- 3 do the shopping c
- 4 do your best a
- 5 make a decision b
- a try as much as you can
- b buy food
- c choose what you want to do
- d move your body to keep it strong ✓
- e be possible to understand
- f do something wrong

7 ABOUT YOU Complete the questions.

- ▶ Do you do many written exercises in class? No, we usually do written exercises for homework.
- 1 Do you make your own bed? _____
- 2 Do you often make mistakes with English? _____
- 3 Do your neighbours often make a lot of noise? _____
- 4 Do you do much housework? _____
- 5 Do you often do the shopping? _____
- 6 Is it important for you to make a lot of money? _____
- 7 Do you always try to do your best? _____

8 ABOUT YOU Write answers to the questions in Exercise 7, or ask another student. If possible, also explain why / why not in your answers.



TEST YOURSELF