



Training for your first marathon

You don't have to be a world-class athlete to run a marathon. Just follow these simple rules.

- You must start training six months before your first race.
- You have to plan a training program and train every week.
- You don't have to run every day, and you can take a break during your run if you feel tired.
- You mustn't run if you feel pain. Stop right away.
- You can't run long distances without lots of water. Drink it all the time!

Presentation

To talk about rules, we use the verbs *must*, *mustn't*, *have to*, *don't have to*, *can*, and *can't*:

- To say something is obligatory, use *must* or *have to*:
*You **must** start training. You **have to** plan.*
- To say something is allowed, use *can*:
*You **can** take the day off.*
- To say something is not obligatory but allowed, use *don't have to*:
*You **don't have to** train every day.*
- To say something is not allowed, use *can't* or *mustn't*:
*You **mustn't** run if you feel pain. / You **can't** run long distances without lots of water.*

must, mustn't, can, can't

Must, *mustn't*, *can*, and *can't* are modal verbs. They never change form and we don't use *do*, *does*, or *did* to make questions and negatives:

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| I / You / He / She / It / We / They | must / mustn't | run every day. |
| | can / can't | |

| | | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Can | I / you / he / she / it / we / they | run every day? |
|-----|-------------------------------------|----------------|

You can also ask questions with *must* (*Must I run?*), but it's uncommon.

have to, don't have to

Have to, *don't have to* are normal verbs. They change form and we use *do*, *does*, or *did* to make questions and negatives:

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| I / You / We / They | have to / don't have to | run every day. |
| He / She / It | has to / doesn't have to | |

| | | |
|------|---------------------|--------------|
| Do | I / you / we / they | have to run? |
| Does | he / she / it | |

Exercises

1 Choose the correct verb form.

- 1 You have to / *mustn't* train a lot for a marathon.
- 2 You *must* / *don't have to* see a doctor if you feel pain.
- 3 You *can* / *can't* smoke in this building. Go outside.
- 4 You *can't* / *don't have to* run the whole race. You can walk some of the way.
- 5 You *must* / *mustn't* eat a big meal before a long run.
- 6 I like to run early in the morning, but you *have to* / *can* train at any time of day.

2 Write sentences to explain the signs using *can* and *can't*.



- 1 You *can't* eat or drink here.
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____

3 Complete the texts using *have to*, *don't have to*, and *mustn't*. Then listen and check.



I like my job. I ¹ _____ wear a uniform. I can work in jeans and a T-shirt. I ² _____ get up early. I start work at 12. But I ³ _____ be late! The boss gets really angry if I'm late.



I love chess. You ⁴ _____ be tall, or fast or strong to play! Of course, you ⁵ _____ be quick and intelligent. And you ⁶ _____ let yourself get distracted. That's a sure way to lose the game!

4 Complete these sentences with rules in your life.

- 1 In my English class, I have to _____.
- 2 At home, I must _____.
- 3 On the weekend, I don't have to _____.
- 4 During an exam, I can't _____.