



Modal verbs *can, could, and may* for requests; suggestions

Can/May I help you?

Can I have a bag of cough drops?

Could I have something for a cough?

May I have a bottle of pain medicine?

What do you suggest/have for a backache?

You could try this new cream.

You should get a heating pad.

Why don't you try these pills?

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Choose the correct words. Then compare and practice with a partner.

1. **A:** **Can / Could** I help you?

B: What do you **suggest / try** for dry skin?

A: Why don't you **suggest / try** this lotion? It's excellent.

B: OK. I'll take it.

2. **A:** **May / Do** I have something for itchy eyes?

B: Sure. You **could / may** try a bottle of eyedrops.

3. **A:** Could I **suggest / have** a box of bandages, please?

B: Here you are.

A: And what do you **suggest / try** for insomnia?

B: You **should / may** try this herbal tea.
It's very relaxing.

A: OK. Thanks.

