

# ING OR INFINITIVE?



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After certain verbs we use the **-ing form**, and after other verbs we use the **infinitive**. Sometimes we can use either form and there is no change in meaning. Occasionally we can use either form and there is a change in meaning. So what's the rule for whether we use the -ing form or the infinitive? Sorry, there isn't a rule. You have to learn which verbs go with which pattern. But we can do it together!!!

## STUDY:

For example: **decide, want, promise, plan and forget**. She decided to go with Elliot instead. I wanted to visit Rome. She promised to take me there. I planned to go to some real Italian restaurants. She didn't forget to phone. The negative is verb + not + infinitive. **They decided not to make pizza.**

## TO + INF:

Verbs followed by **-ing** include enjoy, mind, stop and recommend. I told him you really enjoy cooking. **Would you mind helping me?** It didn't stop raining all day yesterday. Daisy recommends trying Alfie's tiramisu. The negative is verb + not + -ing. Imagine not having pizza! I eat it all the time.

## + ING

Verbs followed by <b>ING</b>	Verbs followed by <b>to + INF</b>	Verbs followed by bare infinitive (inf without 'to')
stop + ing, finish, imagine, suggest, recommend, avoid, mind, miss risk, enjoy admit, appreciate, avoid, consider, delay, deny, finish, involve, keep (on), mention, postpone, suggest	hope to ...., offer fail agree forget manage learn afford arrange ask expect would like decide plan promise want invite	All modal verbs : will, shall, would, could, can, may, might, must, should, needn't and also: would rather, had better

## Gerund or Infinitive?

- 1) A lot of people are worried about \_\_\_\_\_ their jobs. (lose)
- 2) He agreed \_\_\_\_\_ a new car. (buy)
- 3) The question is easy \_\_\_\_\_ (answer)
- 4) Not everybody can afford \_\_\_\_\_ to university. (go)
- 5) I look forward to \_\_\_\_\_ you at the weekend. (see)
- 6) Are you thinking of \_\_\_\_\_ London? (visit)
- 7) He apologized for \_\_\_\_\_ so late. (arrive)
- 8) Stop \_\_\_\_\_ noise, please; I'm studying (make)
- 9) She doesn't mind \_\_\_\_\_ the night shift. (work)
- 10) I learned \_\_\_\_\_ the bike at the age of 5. (ride)

**THESE VERBS CAN BE FOLLOWED BY ING OR TO+ INF WITH NO CHANGE IN MEANING  
ADD THE VERB AT THE END OF THE SENTENCE IN BOTH FORMS TO HELP YOU REMEMBER THEM!**

can't bear	I can't bear ..... alone. / I can't bear ..... alone. (be)	can't bear = non sopportare q/c.
can't stand	Anne can't stand ..... the late / Anne can't stand ..... the late shift. (work)	can't stand = non sopportare q/c.
cease	The government ceased ..... free health care. / The government ceased ..... free health care. (provide)	
continue	Sarah continued ..... / Sarah continued ..... (talk)	
hate	He hates ..... dishes. / He hates ..... dishes (wash)	
like	Chris likes ..... / Chris likes ..... (read)	
love	We love ..... / We love to ..... (eat)	
neglect	He neglected ..... his daily chores. / He neglected ..... his daily chores. (do)	
prefer	He prefers ..... at 7 PM. / He prefers ..... at 7 PM. (meet)	
propose	Peter proposed ..... for the trip. / Peter proposed ..... for the trip. (pay)	