Use of Gerunds and Infinitives



Use the gerund (verb + ing) after prepositions:

I am very good **at remembering** names and faces.

1. She had her lunch **after** all her work. (finish)
2. They are very excited **about** to another country. (move)
3. He is afraid **of** his job. (lose)
4. I am tired **of** you to put your clothes away. (tell)



Use the gerund (verb + ing) after phrasal verbs:

She has **given up smoking**.

1. If you **carry on** out late at night, you will lose your job. (stay)
2. Do you think the thief will **admit to** all the money? (steal)
3. I don't want my child to **grow up** bad habits. (develop)
4. I don't **approve of** people badly. (treat)



Use the gerund (verb + ing) after certain verbs: mind, love, hate, like, enjoy, practise, stop, suggest

Do you **mind getting** up early tomorrow?

1. Do you **suggest** him as a solution to the problem? (fire)
2. I wish you would **stop** so much noise. (make)
3. I **enjoy** a good action movie. (watch)
4. You must **practise** your lines before you go out to play. (learn)



Use the infinitive (+ to) after adjectives.

My house is very **easy to find**.

1. It is not very **polite** to your teacher like that! (speak)
2. We are **happy** the engagement of our daughter. (announce)
3. This coffee is too **hot** at the moment. (drink)
4. It is very **important** before you write exams. (study)



Use the infinitive (+ to) to express a reason or a purpose.

He is saving up his money **to buy a car**.

1. He is working out at the gym fit. (get)
2. I woke up early a shower (have)
3. She went to the supermarket bread and milk. (buy)
4. She is going to England to speak English. (learn)



Use the infinitive (+ to) after certain verbs: agree, forget, remember, decide, expect, help, hope, learn, need, offer, plan, pretend, offer, refuse, seem, try, want

Please **try to finish** your work on time.



1. I **hope** my grandmother on her birthday. (visit)
2. I must **learn** before I go overseas. (drive)
3. The results **seem** your theory (support)
4. We **planned** after work. (meet)

Use the bare infinitive (without to) after most modal verbs and auxiliary verbs:

I **can't** drive.





1. You **won't** your work, unless you hurry. (finish)
2. I'm sorry! I **didn't** you say that. (hear)
3. He is still asleep. He **must have** sleeping pills. (take)
4. He can't have lost. He has been here so often. (got/gotten)

Use the bare infinitive (without to) after 'make' and 'let':

You can't **make** me **do** something against my will



1. I won't **let** you that animal. (hurt)
2. He is so funny. He often **makes** me . (laugh)
3. Do your parents **let** you to school on your own? (walk)
4. Her parents **made** her for being rude. (apologise)

These common verbs can take either the gerund or infinitive with no difference in meaning: begin, continue, prefer, start.



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1. Do you **prefer** tea or coffee? (drink)
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2. He was about to **begin** when the bomb exploded. (speak)
   He was about to **begin** when the bomb exploded. (speak)
3. You must **continue** your best. (try)
   You must **continue** your best. (try)
4. Would you **prefer** to London or Paris? (go)
   Would you **prefer** to London or Paris? (go)

