

# Modal Verbs Uses

can	could	have to	Don't have to	may	should
must	mustn't	would	might	will	

## Uses

1. to ask for something politely :
2. to offer to do something:
3. absence of obligation:
4. to express obligation:
5. to give advice:
6. to express possibility:
7. to express future predictions:
8. to express prohibition:

Decide which of the modal verbs in the box below correspond to the different uses. Sometimes more than one modal is possible.

## 1. Modal Verbs



**2.** Choose the correct modal verb (can, must, should, may, might, have to) to complete the sentences:

1. The handyman \_\_\_\_\_ connect the circuits in the hall carefully to avoid mistakes.
2. This software \_\_\_\_\_ estimate the cost for the entire installation.
3. The students \_\_\_\_\_ clean the area after they finish their work.
4. You \_\_\_\_\_ calculate the total cost using the company's software.
5. The electrician \_\_\_\_\_ check the installation with a tester to confirm it works properly.

**3.** Rewrite the sentences using a different modal verb to change the meaning:

1. The handyman can connect the circuits in the hall. (Rewrite using "must")  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. The students may calculate the distance. (Rewrite using "have to")  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. The Radio Station uses modern technology. (Rewrite using "should")  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. The company must pay extra hours on holidays. (Rewrite using "might")  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. We can save electricity when we turn off the lights. (Rewrite using "should")  
\_\_\_\_\_

**4.** Write your own examples

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**5.** Choose the best advice or obligation using modals (can, could, should, must):

1. The electrician \_\_\_\_\_ check the machine before turning it on. (must / could)
2. The students \_\_\_\_\_ wear safety equipment during the installation. (must / may)
3. You \_\_\_\_\_ save electricity by switching off unnecessary devices. (should / can)
4. The inspection \_\_\_\_\_ be carried out by certified technicians only. (may / must)
5. You \_\_\_\_\_ calculate Resistance in Ohms to ensure accuracy. (can / must)
6. New regulations \_\_\_\_\_ include a specific alarm system for all buildings. (should / must)
7. The workers \_\_\_\_\_ complete the job by the end of the week. (could / should)
8. Paul \_\_\_\_\_ design a simple project for the house. (can / should)
9. Electricity Plants \_\_\_\_\_ produce electricity from renewable sources. (may / must)
10. In Uruguay, people \_\_\_\_\_ use an output of 220 volts in most buildings. (should / must)

**6.** Match numbers and letters to form meaningful sentences using modal verbs:

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. The workers must _____          | a. perform a final inspection before the project is complete.           |
| 2. Engineers should _____          | b. follow safety protocols when working on high-voltage systems.        |
| 3. The supervisor can _____        | c. complete the circuit installation by the end of the week.            |
| 4. The technician might _____      | d. use a tester to verify if the equipment is functioning properly.     |
| 5. You must _____                  | e. wear protective gloves while handling electrical wires.              |
| 6. The electrician could _____     | f. turn off the power supply to avoid accidents.                        |
| 7. This device can _____           | g. detect voltage in cables without direct contact.                     |
| 8. The company must _____          | h. provide additional training for staff on the new safety regulations. |
| 9. The control system should _____ | i. automatically shut down if there's a power overload.                 |
| 10. We can _____                   | j. save energy by using more efficient lighting systems.                |