

1 Look at these examples. Then, complete the rules below with *for* or *since*.

I've had my own computer *for* three years.

I haven't bought any football cards *for* a long time. I've played.

I've played the guitar *for* two years.

I've had this guitar *since* January.

I've had one of them *since* I was ten.

My dad's had his camera *since* he was a teenager.

- 1 We use _____ with an amount of time, such as a number of hours / months / years.
- 2 We use _____ with the time when the action started, such as a day / date / age.

UNIT 15

PRESENT PERFECT WITH *SINCE* AND *FOR*

» FOR THE PRESENT PERFECT, SEE UNIT 13 PAGE 159

- We can use the present perfect to talk about an action or situation which started in the past and continues in the present. We use *since* and *for* to say how long something has been happening.
We've lived in this house since March.
We've lived in this house for four months.
- We use *since* with the time when the action or situation started.
I've had this computer since 2013, January, my birthday, etc.
- We use *for* with an amount of time, such as the number of hours, months, years, etc.
My dad's worked in that bank for eight weeks, six months, two years, etc.
- We usually use *how long* with the present perfect to ask questions.
How long have you had your dog?
We've had it since last year / for 11 months.

1 Complete the table with the correct time expression.

10 o'clock	10 seconds	a year	breakfast
ever	five days	four months	I was young
May	my birthday	three minutes	Tuesday
two hours	two weeks	years	

10 o'clock	10 seconds

2 Complete the sentences with the present perfect form of the verb in brackets and *for* or *since*.

0 My neighbours have lived (live) in their house for five years.

1 My aunt _____ (have) her cat _____ 2007.

2 My brother _____ (not eat) meat _____ a long time.

3 I _____ (like) playing tennis _____ I was young.

4 We _____ (not see) our cousins _____ months.

5 My mum and dad _____ (be) married _____ 1996.

3 Write complete sentences with the present perfect and *for* or *since* so they are true for you.

0 I / not play computer games

I haven't played computer games since yesterday.

1 We / not have maths

2 my best friend / live in his or her house

3 my mum / not cook a meal

4 my friends / know each other

5 I / not eat anything

4 Write complete questions with *How long ...?* and the present perfect. Then, write your own answers with the present perfect and *for* or *since*.

0 you / know / your best friend?

How long have you known your best friend?

I've known him for four years.

1 your parents / live / here?

2 your best friend / have / his or her school bag?

3 you / study / in this school?

4 your favourite shop / be / open?

5 your English teacher / work / in your school?

2 Complete the sentences with *for* or *since*.

- 1 Jack's lived here _____ he was three years old.
- 2 Mum's been asleep _____ four hours.
- 3 I've been a member of the club _____ last month.
- 4 Sophie's had her new phone _____ three days.
- 5 We've had our puppy _____ 31st October.
- 6 The students have worked together _____ Monday.
- 7 You've been at this school _____ six months.
- 8 I've had a headache _____ yesterday.
- 9 They've known Jules _____ a long time.

3 Complete the sentences so they are true for you. In pairs, compare your answers.

- 1 I haven't read a comic since _____.
- 2 I haven't watched a cartoon for _____.
- 3 I've played _____ for _____.
- 4 I've been able to _____ since I was _____.
- 5 I've lived in my home since _____.
- 6 I've had this pen for _____.
- 7 I've known my best friend since _____.

4 Correct the mistakes in the sentences.

- 1 It's been my hobby from I was ten years old.
- 2 I've needed one since a month.
- 3 I've had it since a year.
- 4 I've wanted to buy this T-shirt since several weeks.
- 5 It has been open since one month.

4 Complete the blog with *for*, *since*, *has* or *have*.

I collect postcards. I've collected them ¹ _____ a long time. I started when I was six and I'm thirteen now, so I've had this hobby ² _____ seven years. I started when my uncle sent me a postcard from Madrid. He ³ _____ visited a penfriend there every year ⁴ _____ he was a teenager. All my friends and family ⁵ _____ sent me postcards ⁶ _____ then. My favourite is a postcard that ⁷ _____ been on my bedroom wall ⁸ _____ I was ten. It's a photo of New Zealand.



PRONUNCIATION

Weak forms



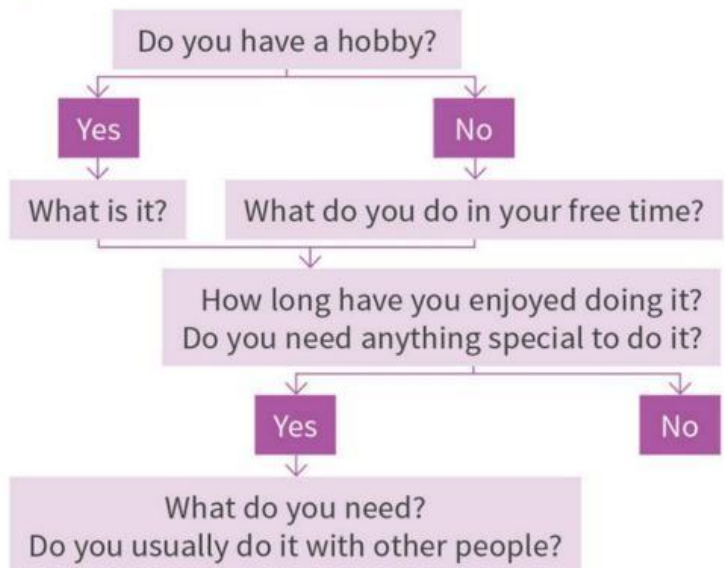
5 Listen to the sentences and notice the pronunciation of the underlined words.

I've had this since I was three.
He's played basketball for two years.
I've just walked home from school.
They haven't been to your house since Saturday.
I've bought some nice shoes.



Listen again and repeat.

6 In pairs, ask and answer.



- 7** Write sentences about your partner.
In groups, read out your sentences.
How much did your partner remember
about you?

*Andrei has done karate since he was seven.
He has a special white jacket and trousers
called a gi. He has a blue belt. He's had it
for six months.*
