

5 Since When?

3 Grammar



Present Perfect Tense versus Simple Past

Use the present perfect to talk about an action that happened in the past when the exact time isn't known or important. Use the past tense when the exact time is given.

Present Perfect

A: Have you ever **been** to France?
B: Yes, I've **been** there.

Past

A: When **were** you there?
B: I **was** there **two years ago**.

Present Perfect with *For* and *Since*

Use the present perfect with *for* and *since* to talk about an action that began in the past and that continues into the present.

For indicates the period of time: *for two months, for a year, for a long time*.

Since indicates when the action began: *since yesterday, since last June*.



Affirmative (+)

I've	studied English	for five years. since third grade.	(I + have)
You've			(you + have)
He's			(he + has)
She's			(she + has)
We've			(we + have)
They've			(they + have)

Negative (-)

I/You/We/They	haven't	received an email	for two days.
He/She	hasn't		since Tuesday.

Question with *How Long*

How long have you played football?	I've played football	for three years. since I was 12.
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A. Complete the sentences with *for* or *since*.

- Hameed has had the same TV _____ 15 years.
- I've had my laptop _____ last June.
- We've worked on this project _____ a month.
- My friends haven't visited me _____ my graduation.
- We haven't used our car _____ a long time.
- I've been drinking tea _____ years.
- Tariq has worn glasses _____ the age of seven.
- _____ when have you had that beautiful watch?