

### ***After versus After That or Afterwards***

These are important words to understand and use in speaking and writing. You can use them with any tense. Make sure you know the difference!

After comes before the first event.

#### Examples

- I cried after I heard the news. After I heard the news, I cried.  
First event: I heard the news. Second event: I cried.
- After he cleans the kitchen, he takes out the garbage.  
First event: He cleans the kitchen. Second event: He takes out the garbage.
- They will become Canadian citizens after they take the test.  
First event: They will take the test.  
Second event: They will become Canadian citizens.

After that or afterwards (afterward in U.S.) comes after the first event.

#### Examples

- I have breakfast and after that I go to school.  
First event: I have breakfast. Second event: I go to school.
- He became the party leader and afterwards he won the election.  
First event: He became the party leader.  
Second event: He won the election.
- You must complete Level 4 English. After that you will receive a certificate.  
First event: You must complete Level 4.  
Second event: You will receive a certificate.

## Exercise

Write logical sentences with these words using **after**, **after that**, or **afterwards**.  
Use **simple past**, **simple present**, or **future tenses**. It's your choice.

Visit my sick friend                      feel sick                      after  
After I visited my sick friend, I felt sick. OR I felt sick after I visited my sick friend.

Wash dishes                      Eat supper                      After  
1. \_\_\_\_\_

Go shopping                      Put the groceries away                      After that  
2. \_\_\_\_\_

Get dressed/go to bed                      Have a shower                      Afterwards  
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Come to Canada                      Become a Canadian citizen                      After  
4. \_\_\_\_\_

Plant some seeds                      Have beautiful flowers                      After that  
5. \_\_\_\_\_

Attend citizenship ceremony                      Take citizenship test                      Afterwards  
6. \_\_\_\_\_

Get sick                      Have blood tests                      After  
7. \_\_\_\_\_

Pass the reading test                      Study hard                      After that  
8. \_\_\_\_\_

Visit my family in Michigan                      Get a U.S. visa                      Afterwards  
9. \_\_\_\_\_

Save a lot of money                      Buy a house                      After  
10. \_\_\_\_\_

Pay the bill                      Order food at a restaurant                      After that  
11. \_\_\_\_\_

Feel better                      Take medicine                      Afterwards  
12. \_\_\_\_\_