

Past simple and present perfect

GRAMMAR RECALL

Past Simple and Present Perfect

Read the sentences on the left and match them to a usage on the right.

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|---|---|
| 1. I bought their CD two days ago. | a. Use the present perfect to describe events that are completed up to now without stating a specific time. |
| 2. He's lost his mobile phone. | b. Use the present perfect to express an action which happened in the past but which has a result in the present. |
| 3. I've lived in London for three years | c. Use the present perfect to describe an action or situation that started in the past and continues into the present. |
| 4. I've visited Japan many times. | d. Use the past simple to refer to a completed action that happened in the past. |

'Ago' is often used with the past simple: *ten minutes ago; a year ago*

'For' and 'since' are often used with the present perfect: *for two years; since 2005*

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Choose the correct alternative in each sentence.

1. They've lived in London **for / since** five years.
2. I **visited / have visited** the Royal Opera House two days **since / ago**.
3. I haven't downloaded any music **for / since** last week.
4. I've had my new MP3 player **for / since** two weeks.
5. I **went / have been** to a rock concert three weeks ago.
6. She's been playing the guitar **for / since** 2005.