

Tense	Signal words	Use	Form	Examples affirmative	Examples negative	Examples interrogative
Simple Present	<p><b>every day</b></p> <p><b>sometimes</b></p> <p><b>always</b></p> <p><b>often</b></p> <p><b>usually</b></p> <p><b>seldom</b></p> <p><b>never</b></p> <p><b>first ... then</b></p>	<p>something happens repeatedly</p> <p>how often something happens</p> <p>one action follows another</p> <p>things in general</p> <p>after the following verbs (to love, to hate, to think, etc.)</p> <p>future meaning: timetables, programmes</p>	<p><b>Infinitive</b></p> <p>he/she/it + <b>-s</b></p>	<p>I <b>work</b>.</p> <p>He <b>works</b>.</p> <p>I <b>go</b>.</p> <p>He <b>goes</b>.</p>	<p>I <b>don't work</b>.</p> <p>He <b>doesn't work</b>.</p> <p>I <b>don't go</b>.</p> <p>He <b>doesn't go</b>.</p>	<p><b>Do</b> I <b>work</b>?</p> <p><b>Does</b> he <b>work</b>?</p> <p><b>Do</b> I <b>go</b>?</p> <p><b>Does</b> he <b>go</b>?</p>
Present Progressive	<p><b>now</b></p> <p><b>at the moment</b></p> <p><b>Look!</b></p> <p><b>Listen!</b></p>	<p>something is happening at the same time of speaking or around it</p> <p>future meaning: when you have already <b>decided and arranged</b> to do it (a fixed plan, date)</p>	<p><b>to be (am/are/is) + Infinitive + ing</b></p>	<p>I'm <b>working</b>.</p> <p>He's <b>working</b>.</p> <p>I'm <b>going</b>.</p> <p>He's <b>going</b>.</p>	<p>I'm <b>not working</b>.</p> <p>He <b>isn't working</b>.</p> <p>I'm <b>not going</b>.</p> <p>He <b>isn't going</b>.</p>	<p><b>Am</b> I <b>working</b>?</p> <p><b>Is</b> he <b>working</b>?</p> <p><b>Am</b> I <b>going</b>?</p> <p><b>Is</b> he <b>going</b>?</p>
Simple Past	<p><b>last ...</b></p> <p><b>... ago</b></p> <p><b>in 1990</b></p> <p><b>yesterday</b></p>	<p>action took place in the past, mostly connected with an expression of time (no connection to the present)</p>	<p>regular: <b>Infinitive + -ed</b></p> <p>irregular: <b>2. Spalte</b></p>	<p>I <b>worked</b>.</p> <p>He <b>worked</b>.</p> <p>I <b>went</b>.</p> <p>He <b>went</b>.</p>	<p>I <b>didn't work</b>.</p> <p>He <b>didn't work</b>.</p> <p>I <b>didn't go</b>.</p> <p>He <b>didn't go</b>.</p>	<p><b>Did</b> I <b>work</b>?</p> <p><b>Did</b> he <b>work</b>?</p> <p><b>Did</b> I <b>go</b>?</p> <p><b>Did</b> he <b>go</b>?</p>

Past Progressive	<b>while</b>	<p>an action happened in the middle of another action</p> <p>someone was doing sth. at a certain time (in the past) - you don't know whether it was finished or not</p>	<b>was/were + Infinitive + -ing</b>	<p>I <b>was working</b>.</p> <p>He <b>was working</b>.</p> <p>I <b>was going</b>.</p> <p>He <b>was going</b>.</p>	<p>I <b>wasn't working</b>.</p> <p>He <b>wasn't working</b>.</p> <p>I <b>wasn't going</b>.</p> <p>He <b>wasn't going</b>.</p>	<p><b>Was I working?</b></p> <p><b>Was he working?</b></p> <p><b>Was I going?</b></p> <p><b>Was he going?</b></p>
Simple Present Perfect	<p><b>just</b></p> <p><b>yet</b></p> <p><b>never</b></p> <p><b>ever</b></p> <p><b>already</b></p> <p><b>so far,</b></p> <p><b>up to now,</b></p> <p><b>since</b></p> <p><b>for</b></p> <p><b>recently</b></p>	<p>you say that sth. has happened or is finished in the past and it has a connection to the present</p> <p>action started in the past and continues up to the present</p>	<p><b>have/has + past participle*</b></p> <p><i>*(infinitive + -ed) or (3rd column of table of irregular verbs)</i></p>	<p>I <b>have worked</b>.</p> <p>He <b>has worked</b>.</p> <p>I <b>have gone</b>.</p> <p>He <b>has gone</b>.</p>	<p>I <b>haven't worked</b>.</p> <p>He <b>hasn't worked</b>.</p> <p>I <b>haven't gone</b>.</p> <p>He <b>hasn't gone</b>.</p>	<p><b>Have I worked?</b></p> <p><b>Has he worked?</b></p> <p><b>Have I gone?</b></p> <p><b>Has he gone?</b></p>
Present Perfect Progressive	<p><b>all day</b></p> <p><b>the whole day</b></p> <p><b>how long</b></p> <p><b>since</b></p> <p><b>for</b></p>	<p>action began in the past and has just stopped</p> <p>how long the action has been happening</p> <p><b>emphasis: length of time of an action</b></p>	<b>have/has + been + Infinitive + -ing</b>	<p>I <b>have been working</b>.</p> <p>He <b>has been working</b>.</p> <p>I <b>have been going</b>.</p> <p>He <b>has been going</b>.</p>	<p>I <b>haven't been working</b>.</p> <p>He <b>hasn't been working</b>.</p> <p>I <b>haven't been going</b>.</p> <p>He <b>hasn't been going</b>.</p>	<p><b>Have I been working?</b></p> <p><b>Has he been working?</b></p> <p><b>Have I been going?</b></p> <p><b>Has he been going?</b></p>

Simple Past Perfect	<p><b>already</b></p> <p><b>just</b></p> <p><b>never</b></p>	<p>mostly when two actions in a story are related to each other: the action which had already happened is put into past perfect, the other action into simple past</p> <p>the past of the Present Perfect</p>	<p><b>had + past participle*</b></p> <p>*(<b>infinitive + -ed</b>) or (<b>3rd column of table of irregular verbs</b>)</p>	<p>I <b>had worked.</b></p> <p>He <b>had worked.</b></p> <p>I <b>had gone.</b></p> <p>He <b>had gone.</b></p>	<p>I <b>hadn't worked.</b></p> <p>He <b>hadn't worked.</b></p> <p>I <b>hadn't gone.</b></p> <p>He <b>hadn't gone.</b></p>	<p><b>Had I worked?</b></p> <p><b>Had he worked?</b></p> <p><b>Had I gone?</b></p> <p><b>Had he gone?</b></p>
Past Perfect Progressive	<p><b>how long</b></p> <p><b>since</b></p> <p><b>for</b></p>	<p>how long something had been happening before something else happened</p>	<p><b>had + been + Infinitive + ing</b></p>	<p>I <b>had been working.</b></p> <p>He <b>had been working.</b></p> <p>I <b>had been going.</b></p> <p>He <b>had been going.</b></p>	<p>I <b>hadn't been working.</b></p> <p>He <b>hadn't been working.</b></p> <p>I <b>hadn't been going.</b></p> <p>He <b>hadn't been going.</b></p>	<p><b>Had I been working?</b></p> <p><b>Had he been working?</b></p> <p><b>Had I been going?</b></p> <p><b>Had he been going?</b></p>
will - future		<p>predictions about the future (you think that sth will happen)</p> <p>you decide to do sth. spontaneously at the time of speaking, you haven't made a main clause in type I of the if clauses</p>	<p><b>will + Infinitive</b></p>	<p>I <b>'ll work.</b></p> <p>He <b>'ll work.</b></p> <p>I <b>'ll go.</b></p> <p>He <b>'ll go.</b></p>	<p>I <b>won't work.</b></p> <p>He <b>won't work.</b></p> <p>I <b>won't go.</b></p> <p>He <b>won't go.</b></p>	<p><b>Will I work?</b></p> <p><b>Will he work?</b></p> <p><b>Will I go?</b></p> <p><b>Will he go?</b></p>
going to - future		<p>when you have already decided to do sth. in the future</p> <p>what you think what will happen</p>	<p><b>be (am/are/is) + going to + Infinitive</b></p>	<p>I <b>'m going to work.</b></p> <p>He <b>'s going to work.</b></p> <p>I <b>'m going to go.</b></p> <p>He <b>'s going to go.</b></p>	<p>I <b>'m not going to work.</b></p> <p>He <b>'s not going to work.</b></p> <p>I <b>'m not going to go.</b></p> <p>He <b>'s not going to go.</b></p>	<p><b>Am I going to work?</b></p> <p><b>Is he going to work?</b></p> <p><b>Am I going to go?</b></p> <p><b>Is he going to go?</b></p>

<p>Future Progressive</p>		<p>An action will be in progress at a certain time in the future. This action has begun before the certain time.</p> <p>Something happens because it normally happens.</p>	<p><b>will + be + Infinitive + ing</b></p>	<p>I <b>ll be working.</b> He <b>ll be working.</b> I <b>ll be going.</b> He <b>ll be going.</b></p>	<p>I <b>won't be working.</b> He <b>won't be working.</b> I <b>won't be going.</b> He <b>won't be going.</b></p>	<p><b>Will I be working?</b> <b>Will he be working?</b> <b>Will I be going?</b> <b>Will he be going?</b></p>
<p>Future Perfect Simple</p>		<p>sth. will already have happened before a certain time in the future</p>	<p><b>will + have + past participle*</b> *(<b>infinitive + -ed</b>) or (<b>3rd column of table of irregular verbs</b>)</p>	<p>I <b>ll have worked.</b> He <b>ll have worked.</b> I <b>ll have gone.</b> He <b>ll have gone.</b></p>	<p>I <b>won't have worked.</b> He <b>won't have worked.</b> I <b>won't have gone.</b> He <b>won't have gone.</b></p>	<p><b>Will I have worked?</b> <b>Will he have worked?</b> <b>Will I have gone?</b> <b>Will he have gone?</b></p>
<p>Future Perfect Progressive</p>		<p>sth. will already have happened before a certain time in the future</p> <p><b>emphasis: length of time of an action</b></p>	<p><b>will + have + been + Infinitive + ing</b></p>	<p>I <b>ll have been working.</b> He <b>ll have been working.</b> I <b>ll have been going.</b> He <b>ll have been going.</b></p>	<p>I <b>won't have been working.</b> He <b>won't have been working.</b> I <b>won't have been going.</b> He <b>won't have been going.</b></p>	<p><b>Will I have been working?</b> <b>Will he have been working?</b> <b>Will I have been working?</b> <b>Will he have been working?</b></p>
<p>Conditional Simple</p>		<p>sth. that might happen</p> <p>main clause in type II of the if clauses</p>	<p><b>would + Infinitive</b></p>	<p>I <b>would work.</b> He <b>would work.</b> I <b>would go.</b> He <b>would go.</b></p>	<p>I <b>wouldn't work.</b> He <b>wouldn't work.</b> I <b>wouldn't go.</b> He <b>wouldn't go.</b></p>	<p><b>Would I work?</b> <b>Would he work?</b> <b>Would I work?</b> <b>Would he work?</b></p>

<p>Conditional Progressive</p>		<p>sth. that might happen</p> <p><b>emphasis: length of time of an action</b></p>	<p>would + be + Infinitive + ing</p>	<p>I would be working. He would be working. I would be going. He would be going.</p>	<p>I wouldn't be working. He wouldn't be working. I wouldn't be going. He wouldn't be going.</p>	<p>Would I be working? Would he be working? Would I be going? Would he be going?</p>
<p>Conditional Perfect</p>		<p>sth. that might have happened in the past</p> <p>(It's too late now.)</p> <p>main clause in type III of the if clauses</p>	<p>would + have + past participle*</p> <p>*(infinitive + -ed) or (3rd column of table of irregular verbs)</p>	<p>I would have worked. He would have worked. I would have gone. He would have gone.</p>	<p>I wouldn't have worked. He wouldn't have worked. I wouldn't have gone. He wouldn't have gone.</p>	<p>Would I have worked? Would he have worked? Would I have gone? Would he have gone?</p>
<p>Conditional Perfect Progressive</p>		<p>sth. that might have happened in the past</p> <p>(It's too late now.)</p> <p><b>emphasis: length of time of an action</b></p>	<p>would + have + been + Infinitive + ing</p>	<p>I would have been working. He would have been going. I would have been going. He would have been going.</p>	<p>I wouldn't have been working. He wouldn't have been going. I wouldn't have been going. He wouldn't have been going.</p>	<p>Would I have been working? Would he have been working? Would I have been going? Would he have been going?</p>

We sometimes use Continuous instead of Progressive. Some signal words can be found in more tenses. We did not list signal words in the future . Always remember what action is described.