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## Present tenses

### Present simple

#### Use

We use the present simple to talk about regular activities, long-term situations and things that are always true.

*I play football every Saturday.*

*She works for a software company.*

*Customers want low prices*

#### Form

<b>Affirmative sentences</b> Use the base form of the verb. Add s to third person forms.	<i>I/You/We/They work.</i> <i>He/She/It works.</i>
<b>Negative sentences</b> Use <i>don't</i> ( <i>do not</i> ). Use <i>doesn't</i> ( <i>does not</i> ) with third person forms.	<i>You don't work.</i> <i>He doesn't work.</i>
<b>Questions</b> Use <i>do</i> or <i>does</i> .	<i>Do I/you/we/they work?</i> <i>Does he/she/it work?</i> <i>Where do you work?</i>
<b>Short answers</b> Use <i>do</i> or <i>does</i> .	<i>Do you work in a garage? Yes, I do.</i> <i>Does he pay cash? No, he doesn't.</i>

#### Spelling of third person forms

<b>1</b> Regular verbs	+ s	<i>speak</i> → <i>speaks</i>
<b>2</b> <i>do</i> and <i>go</i>	+ es	<i>do</i> → <i>does</i> <i>go</i> → <i>goes</i>
<b>3</b> Verbs ending with <i>ss</i> , <i>ch</i> , <i>sh</i> or <i>x</i> sounds	+ es	<i>miss</i> → <i>misses</i> <i>watch</i> → <i>watches</i> <i>wash</i> → <i>washes</i> <i>fix</i> → <i>fixes</i>
<b>4</b> Verbs ending in consonant + <i>y</i>	- y + ies	<i>try</i> → <i>tries</i>

#### Pronunciation

The pronunciation of the third person *s* depends how the verb ends. Some English consonants are voiced and some are unvoiced. Place two fingers on your throat. Say 'ssssss'. Then say 'zzzzzz'. You should feel no vibration when you say 's' and vibration when you say 'z'. The vibration comes from voicing.

Some voiced sounds are: *l, n, v, m*

Some unvoiced sounds are: *p, k, f, t*

Verbs ending with voiced sounds: Pronounce the <i>s</i> as /z/	<i>calls, learns, receives, comes, plays, goes</i>
Verbs ending with an unvoiced sound: Pronounce the <i>s</i> as /s/	<i>stops, talks, laughs, supports, looks</i>
Special cases: Verbs ending with a 'hissing' sound: Add an extra syllable: /lz/	<i>passes, advises, fixes, changes, watches</i>