

66 Verb (+ object) + infinitive; *make* and *let*



Mrs Grant is **teaching Justin to play** the piano. She **makes him practise** every day.

1 Verb (+ object) + infinitive with *to*

With some verbs it is possible to put an object between the first verb and the infinitive:

*ask beg dare expect help intend mean need
require want wish would like/love/hate/prefer*

verb + infinitive + to

Sami wants to find a better job.

I didn't intend to spend so much money.

verb + object + infinitive with to

Sami wants his son/him to find a better job.

I didn't intend Laralher to spend so much money.

⚠ We don't use a *that* clause after these verbs:
X We begged Antonia that she didn't go out alone. ✓ *We begged Antonia not to go out alone.*

⚠ We can use the infinitive with or without *to* after *help*:
I'll help you carry those bags. / *I'll help you to carry those bags.* (► Unit 65.1)

2 Verb + object + infinitive with *to*

With other verbs we ALWAYS put an object between the first verb and the infinitive:

*advise allow cause encourage forbid force invite permit
persuade recommend remind teach tell order warn*

Mrs Grant is teaching Justin to play the piano.
We always encourage the students to plan their revision.
Can you remind me to set the alarm for 6.30 when we go to bed?

⚠ To make the infinitive verb negative we put *not* BEFORE *to*:
X The police persuaded the gunman to not shoot. ✓ *The police persuaded the gunman not to shoot.*
Some verbs (*advise, allow, forbid, permit, recommend*) can also be followed by an *-ing* form as an object (► Unit 64.2):
The management does not allow staff to smoke.
BUT *The management does not allow smoking.*
We recommend students to use a good dictionary.
BUT *We recommend using a good dictionary.*

3 *make* and *let*

The verbs *make* and *let* always have an object, and are followed by the infinitive without *to*:
Mrs Grant makes Justin practise every day. (= forces him to)
Our manager lets us work from home once or twice a week. (= allows us to)
The soldiers made the prisoners walk 50 kilometres.
But in the passive, we use *to* before the infinitive. For *let*, we use *allowed to* (► Unit 52.2/3):
The prisoners were made to walk 50 kilometres before they were allowed to sleep.
X ... they weren't let to sleep. ✓ *They weren't allowed to sleep.*