

I'm not robot!

Let's learn the forms of the present continuous including the affirmative, negative, question and short forms. There are also lots of examples to help make everything very clear. Before we get started, please note that this is also often called the present progressive tense. [Note: Click here to learn how to use this tense.] To form the present continuous, we use the am / is / are form of the verb "to be" plus the infinitive of the verb plus an -ing ending. The form is the same for each subject. Please note as shown above that you can contract the subject and verb if you want to: I am = I'm he is = he's she is = she's it is = it's we are = we're they are = they're Examples: I am going to school. / I'm going to school. You are doing the dishes. You're doing the dishes. He's seeing his doctor now. She's playing with her dog outside. We are fighting over which tv show to watch. You are all telling me different stories. They are reading quietly before bedtime. Present continuous negative form To make the tense negative add "not" before the verb + -ing. Examples: I am not going to bed now. You are not doing your homework now. The children are not sleeping at this time. My boyfriend is not telling me everything. They are not reading today's newspaper. You can also use contractions with the negative form. Examples: I'm not going to bed now. (NOT: I amn't going to bed) You're not doing your homework now. You aren't doing your homework now. The mouse isn't eating the cheese. (The mouse's not eating the cheese. We're not buying a new car. We aren't buying a new car. They're not studying very often. They aren't studying very often. Present continuous yes/no questions (positive) Questions that can be answered with "yes" or "no" answers are formed by inverting the subject and correct form of the verb "be" (am / is / are). (Inverting simply means we change the order of the subject and verb form:.) Affirmative statement: I am coming. (the subject "I" is first, then the verb form "am") Affirmative question: Am I coming? (to make a question, the verb form "am" comes first then the subject "I"). Examples: Am I reading a book right now? Is he speaking on the phone with your teacher? Is the baby still crying? Is the dog eating his food now? Are we cooking together at this moment? Are they sleeping yet? Wh- questions present continuous We can also use contractions for the following wh- questions: who is = who's what is = what's where is = where's when is = when's why is = why's how is = how's Examples: Where is he going? Where's she traveling to? How are getting to the store? Why are the buses running late? What is my dog eating? What's the policeman saying? What are those kids playing with? Where are my children hiding? How's your new phone working? Be careful as there are also some spelling changes: Spelling: Verbs that end with one -e For verbs that end with one -e, drop the -e and add -ing. Note that these verbs the -e sound at the end is silent. (e.g., believe, bake, take, love), believe — believing bake — baking love — loving take — taking choke — choking make — making have — having But: With verbs ending with a long -e sound, add -ing as normal: see — seeing be — being flee — fleeing agree — agreeing Spelling: Short one-syllable verbs ending in CVC If the verb has one syllable and ends with CVC (a consonant + vowel + consonant), we double the final consonant before adding the -ing ending: sit — sitting fit — fitting get — getting plan — planning run — running put — putting stop — stopping swim — swimming Spelling: verbs ending in w, x and y Notice these verbs end in CVC (consonant vowel consonant). However, do not double the consonant for verbs that end in w, x or y: throw — throwing blow — blowing show — showing play — playing flex — flexing Spelling: Two or more syllable verbs When verbs ending in ending in CVC (consonant vowel consonant) have two or more syllables, double the last consonant if the last syllable is stressed. begin — beginning (be / GIN = the last syllable is stressed) control — controlling (con / TROL = the last syllable is stressed) forget — forgetting upset — upsetting regret — regretting refer — referring commit — committing However, when the last syllable is not stressed, just add -ing as usual: benefit — benefiting (be / NE / fit = second syllable is stressed not the last) happen — happening (HAPP / en = first syllable is stressed not the last) open — opening listen — listening deliver — delivering Spelling: Verbs ending in -ie If a verb ends in -ie change 'ie' to 'y' then add -ing: die — dying lie — lying tie — tying Check back for exercises that will help you practice the present continuous tense in its different forms. Now that you've learned how to form the present continuous, click here to learn how to use it. To ask a question in the present continuous tense, we put am/is/are before the subject. am/is/are + subject + -ing Study these examples I am dreaming. — Am I dreaming? You are cooking. — Are you cooking? He is leaving. — Is he leaving? If there is a question word (where, what, how, who etc.), we put it at the beginning of the sentence. What are you cooking? Why is he leaving? Short answers To give a short answer, we only keep the auxiliary verb am/is/are (+ not) and do not repeat the main verb. Examples Am I working hard now? Yes, I am. Are you going home? Yes, you are. Is he leaving? No, he isn't. Is she wearing a hat? Yes, she is. Is it snowing outside? No, it isn't. Are we having fun? Yes, we are. Are they having lunch? No, they aren't. Pay attention In "yes" answers, we do not shorten the auxiliary verb: Yes, I am. Yes, you are. Yes, he is. In "no" answers, it is better to shorten it: No, I'm not. No, you aren't. No, he isn't. Yes, I am. No, I'm not. or No, he isn't. she isn't. it isn't. he/she/it is. he's not. she's not. it's not. we/you/they are. we're not. you're not. they're not. we aren't. you aren't. they aren't. Present continuous tells what is happening now or what is happening in the future. We can make simple yes/no questions by putting the "be verb" first in the sentence. Be Verb + subject + verb(-ing)...? Are you working now? Is he going to the store later? Is mom cooking right now? Is mom cooking chicken for dinner tonight? Are you living with your family at the moment? Is he currently working as a manager? Like other yes/no questions, there are long and short answers. Look at the pattern below. Are you going to the party tomorrow? Yes, I am going to the party tomorrow. Yes, I'm going. Yes, I am. / Yes, I'm. Yes, I'm. Yes. Is he working now? No, he's not working now. No, he is not working. No, he is not. / No, he isn't. No. A great way to learn English is to look at many examples and make your own. Example Questions Am I attending the meeting tomorrow? Am I going with you tomorrow? Am I bothering you? Am I making too much noise? Is he sleeping? Is Mark working tonight? Is Mary getting her haircut right now? Is the computer working? Is it raining? Is it snowing? Is the company going bankrupt? Is the war going to end soon? Is your company doing well? Is he playing with this son in the park at the moment? Is she creating a new design for the website these days? Are you getting ready to leave? Are you going on vacation next week? Are you eating with us tonight? Are you baking a cake right now? Are we leaving at 6 o'clock? Are they fighting? Are people worrying about the situation? Are the children playing at the playground? Are Tina and Sam watching a movie together tonight? Are the girls sleeping? Are the stores opening on Christmas? Are we eating spaghetti tonight for dinner? English Conversation 1A) Are you going to Karen's party now? B) No, I am not going now, but I'm going later. A) Why? I am going now. Let's go together. B) I have to finish some homework. I am leaving after I finish my homework. A) Okay. I will see you there. English Conversation 2A) Is the conference being held in New York this year? B) I don't think so. I think it is being held in London. A) Are you going? B) I think so. I usually go every year. Are you going? A) I am very busy these days, so I am only attending if I have time. Learn to speak English fluently. Practice by finishing the questions below and then practice making your own questions. It is a great way to learn English. Tip: Say the questions aloud. This will help you practice speaking English and improve your English fluency. Are you \_\_\_\_\_ this weekend? Is he \_\_\_\_\_ at the moment? Is he \_\_\_\_\_ later today? Is she \_\_\_\_\_ next year? Is he \_\_\_\_\_ now? Are we \_\_\_\_\_ tonight? Are they \_\_\_\_\_ right now? In the present continuous tense, negative forms are made using NOT, and question forms are made by changing the word order of the sentence. This page explains the rules. 1. Forming a negative Negatives in the present continuous are formed by adding not or n't after the verb BE. Positive sentence Negative sentence Contracted negative I am eating. I am not eating. I'm not eating. You are working. You are not working. You aren't working. He is driving. He is not driving. He isn't driving. She is teaching. She is not teaching. She isn't teaching. It is raining. It is not raining. It isn't raining. We are reading. We are not reading. We aren't reading. They are writing. They are not writing. They aren't writing. 2. Forming a question Yes/no questions are created by moving the verb BE to the beginning of the sentence. WH-questions are formed by moving the verb BE, and then adding the WH- word. Here are the rules: Statement Yes/no question WH- question I am eating. Am I eating? What am I eating? You are crying. Are you crying? Why are you crying? He is going. Is he going? Where is he going? She is arriving. Is she arriving? When is she arriving? It is sleeping. Is it sleeping? Why is it sleeping? We are leaving. Are we leaving? When are we leaving? They are fighting. Are they fighting? Why are they fighting? When you are sure that you understand the lesson, you can continue with the exercises.

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