



VERB PATTERNS

VERB + GERUND

We use gerunds (verb + ing):

- After certain verbs

I **enjoy singing**.

- After prepositions

I drank a cup of coffee **before leaving**.

- As the subject or object of a sentence

Swimming is good exercise.

VERB + INFINITIVE

We use 'to' + infinitive:

- After certain verbs

We **decided to leave**.

- After many adjectives

It's **difficult to get** up early.

- To express purpose

I came to London **to study** English.

VERB + BARE INFINITIVE

- Bare infinitive = infinitive without 'to'
- After modal verbs: I can **meet** you at six o'clock.
- After 'let', 'make' and (sometimes) 'help': The teacher let us **leave** early.
- After some verbs of perception (see, watch, hear, notice, feel, sense):
I watched her **walk** away.
- After expressions with 'why': Why **go** out the night before an exam?

USING GERUND / INFINITIVE WITHOUT A CHANGE IN MEANING

- Begin He began singing / to sing.
- Continue He continued reading / to read.
- Hate I hate cleaning / to clean.
- Like I like dancing / to dance.
- Love She loves swimming / to swim.
- Prefer She prefers painting / to paint.
- Start It started raining / to rain.

USING GERUND / INFINITIVES WITH A CHANGE IN MEANING

Remember

- I remember going to the beach when I was a child.
- I remembered to buy milk.

Forget

- I told my brother that we'd spent Christmas at Granny's house in 1985, but he'd forgotten going there.
- I forgot to call my mother.

Try

- She tried giving up chocolate, but it didn't help her lose weight.
- I'll try to carry up the suitcase, but it looks too heavy for me.

Stop

- I stopped working when I was expecting a baby.
- I stopped to eat lunch.

Regret

- I regret going to bed so late.
- I regret to tell you that the train has been delayed.

EXERCISES

- <http://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/verb-patterns-exercises.html>