

Verbs followed by gerund (verb+ing)

**anticipate** – We didn't anticipate winning this match.  
**avoid** – Let's avoid being late.  
**can't help** – I can't help counting those calories.  
**complete** – He completed baking the apple pie.  
**consider** – She never considered moving to England.  
**delay** – We delayed moving to the new house until spring.  
**deny** – He will deny stealing that car.  
**despise** – She despises asking for favours.  
**discuss** – We discussed buying a bigger apartment.  
**dislike** – She dislikes cooking and baking.  
**enjoy** – She enjoys reading.  
**fancy** – I fancy having chicken for dinner.  
**finish** – She finished eating before everyone else.  
**forgive** – Can you forgive me for not fixing the car?  
**imagine** – Can you imagine living on the moon?  
**involve** – The new project involves writing many reports.  
**keep** – She keeps coming late!  
**mention** – I never mentioned meeting him.  
**mind** – Will he mind switching rooms?  
**miss** – I miss chatting with you.  
**postpone** – Let's postpone going out of town.  
**practise** – He practises playing the guitar daily.  
**recommend** – The doctor recommends resting in bed.  
**report** – They reported seeing her leave with a stranger.  
**resent** – He resents doing it all by himself.  
**resist** – I can't resist liking him.  
**resume** – They resumed talking after the teacher left.  
**risk** – Would you risk losing everything?  
**suggest** – I suggest not taking him too seriously.  
**tolerate** – We can't tolerate being screamed at.  
**understand** – He couldn't understand her leaving so suddenly.  
**worth** – It's worth visiting the cathedral if you have time.

Verbs followed by infinitive (with "to")

**afford** – He has no money so he can't afford to buy a car.  
**agree** – They agreed to give him a try.  
**appear** – He appeared to know everything.  
**arrange** – I have arranged to meet him on Monday.  
**ask** – She asked to see her doctor.

**choose** – We chose to ignore it.  
**claim** – He claims to be an expert.  
**decide** – She decided not to go to the party.  
**demand** – I demand to see the person in charge!  
**deserve** – He deserves to win the contest.  
**expect** – He expected to be home sooner.  
**fail** – They failed to follow the instructions.  
**get** – It's not fair that she gets to see him first.  
**happen** – I happened to pass by, so we had a chat.  
**hesitate** – Don't hesitate to call.  
**hope** – I hope to see you soon.  
**intend** – She didn't intend to hurt you.  
**learn** – He learned to speak Spanish very quickly.  
**manage** – We managed to finish everything on time.  
**offer** – He offered to go for a walk.  
**prepare** – We were preparing to leave when he arrived.  
**pretend** – She pretended not to hear a word.  
**promise** – She promised to take us with her next time.  
**refuse** – I refuse to cooperate.  
**seem** – It seems to be broken.  
**swear** – He swore to take revenge.  
**tend** – These plants tend to grow slowly.  
**threaten** – He has threatened to hurt us.  
**wait** – The runners were waiting to start.  
**want** – I want to speak with you in private.  
**wish** – I wish to change my address.  
**would like** – I would like to make a comment

Verbs followed by bare infinitive (without "to")

**can** – I can help you if you have any problems.  
**could** – When I was young I could play the piano.  
**had better** – You'd better finish your homework before it's too late.  
**let (+object +verb)** – My parents never let me go out late when I was young.  
**make (+object +verb)** – The boss made her employees stay late.  
**may** – I may go to the party, but I'm not sure.  
**might** – They might make money with the new business plan.  
**must** – You must renew your passport before travelling abroad.  
**should** – You should try the new restaurant in the centre.  
**would rather** – I would rather cook at home than eat out.

Verbs followed by both gerund and infinitive with no change in meaning

**can't stand**

She can't stand sitting in the sun when it's hot.

She can't stand to sit in the sun when it's hot.

**continue**

He continued talking when I asked him to stop.

He continued to talk when I asked him to stop.

**prefer**

We prefer eating dinner early.

We prefer to eat dinner early.

**start**

She started working at the company in May.

She started to work at the company in May.

Verbs followed by both gerund and infinitive with different meaning

**forget**

He forgot lending me the money.

*(He has no memory of lending the money.)*

He forgot to lend me the money.

*(He forgot to complete the intended action.)*

**remember**

I remember locking the storage.

*(I have a memory of locking the storage.)*

I must remember to lock the storage.

*(I must remember to complete the intended action.)*

**need**

The house needs cleaning.

*(Passive voice, we don't know who will clean.)*

We need to clean the house.

*(Active voice, the subject does the action.)*

**regret**

I regret going to your wedding.

*(I went, and now I regret it.)*

I regret to tell you I can't go to your wedding.

*(I feel bad that I plan to tell you that I won't go.)*

**stop**

She stopped chatting.

*(She was chatting, and then she stopped.)*

She stopped to chat.

*(She was doing something, then she stopped and chatted.)*

**try**

They tried using bleach to clean the stain.

*(They experimented with bleach as an option.)*

They tried to use bleach to clean the stain.

*(The attempt to use bleach was a failure.)*