

Gerund or Infinitive?





gerund
gerrund

1

What is a Gerund?

A gerund is a verb form that functions as a noun, ending in '-ing'.

2

What is an Infinitive?

An infinitive is the **basic form** of a verb, often preceded by 'to'.

3

Key Differences

Gerunds describe actions, while infinitives describe purposes or intentions.

When to Use the Gerund

After Prepositions

Gerunds are commonly used after prepositions, such as 'before', 'after', and 'without'.

As the Subject

Gerunds can act as the subject of a sentence, such as 'Smoking is bad for your health'.

As the Object

Gerunds can also serve as the object of a sentence, following a verb.

VERB+GERUND:

begin/start, stop/finish, like, enjoy, miss,
remember/recount/recall, report, consider,
imagine, risk, propose, bother, admit, need,
avoid + DOING

Gerund after Prepositions

VERB (+ OBJECT) + PREPOSITION + GERUND

succeed in, specialize in,
involve in, engage in + ING

focus/concentrate on, plan
on, count on, depend on,
insist on + ING

aim at, direct at, hint at, fail at,
to be accomplished at + ING

admit to, to be accustomed
to, to be committed/devoted
to, restrict ... to, limit to + ING

begin/start by, cause by,
respond by + ING

describe as, quote as, dismiss
as + ING



When to Use the Infinitive

1

After Certain Verbs

Infinitives are often used after verbs like 'want', 'need', and 'decide'.

2

To Express Purpose

Infinitives can be used to indicate the purpose or reason for an action.

3

In Certain Sentence Structures

Infinitives are required in constructions like 'I have to study' and 'You need to try'.



Infinitive after Certain Verbs



Verbs of Perception

Verbs like 'see', 'hear', and 'watch' are followed by an infinitive.



to be forced, trained, required, expected, prepared, programmed...
+ TO DO
suppose, want, need, fail, intend, seem, learn, ... + TO DO



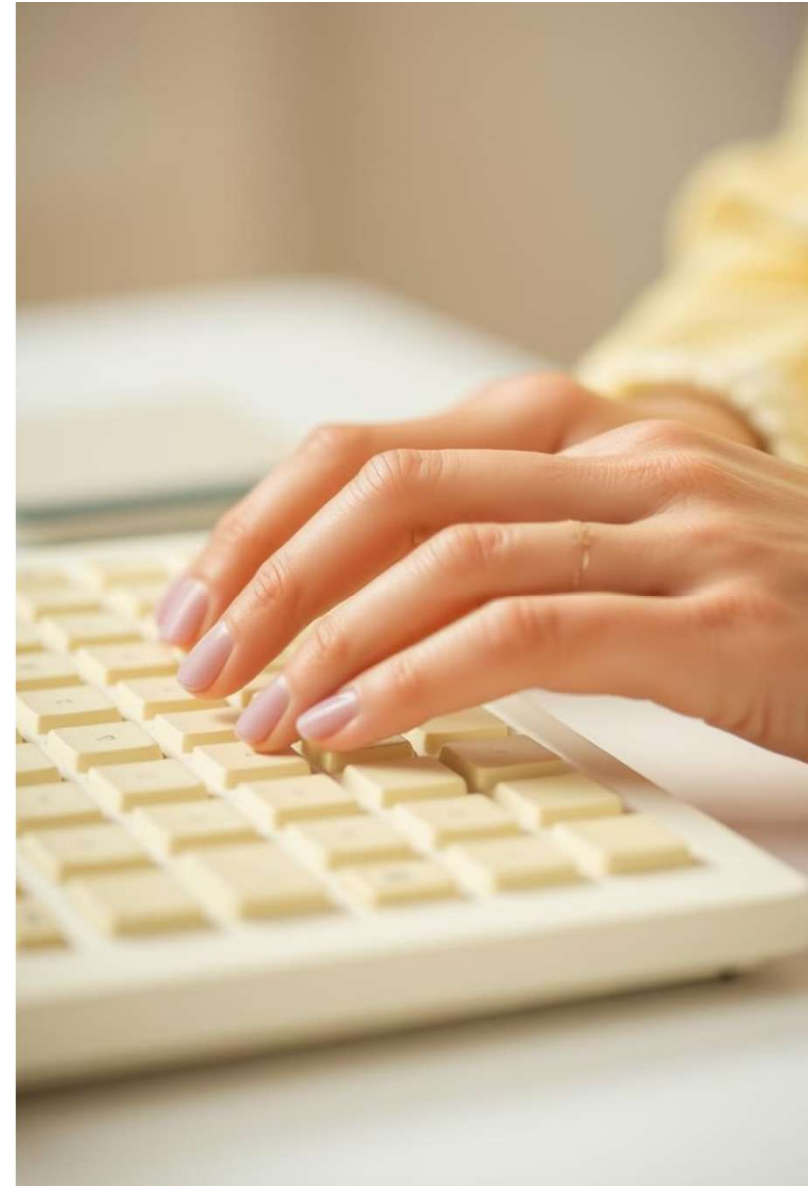
Verbs of Cognition

Verbs like 'want', 'choose', and 'decide' require an infinitive.



Verbs of Time

Verbs like 'begin', 'continue', and 'start' are followed by an infinitive.



Gerund vs. Infinitive with "Remember", "Forget", "Try"

Verb	Gerund	Infinitive
Remember	I remember locking the door.	Remember to lock the door.
Forget	I forgot locking the door.	I forgot to lock the door.
Try	I tried opening the door.	I tried to open the door.
Stop	I stopped smoking.	I stopped to smoke.



Patterns with Adjectives

Adjectives + Gerund

Adjectives like 'interested', 'good', and 'bad' are followed by a gerund.

Adjectives + Infinitive

Adjectives like 'able', 'ready', and 'willing' are followed by an infinitive.

Exceptions

Some adjectives can take either a gerund or infinitive, like 'keen'.

LITERATURE

<https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/grammar/b1-b2-grammar/verbs-followed-ing-or-infinitive-change-meaning>