

8 Reference

Present Continuous

We make the Present Continuous with a present form of the verb *to be* and the *-ing* form of the main verb.

+	I	'm (am)	staying at home today.
	He/She/It	's (is)	
	We/You/They	're (are)	
-	I	'm not (am not)	staying at home today.
	He/She/It	isn't (is not)	
	We/You/They	aren't (are not)	
?	Am	I	staying at home today?
	Is	he/she/it	
	Are	we/you/they	
	Yes,	I am. he/she/it is. we/you/they are.	No, I'm not. he/she/it isn't. we/you/they aren't.

The main verb in the Present Continuous is in the *-ing* form. Make this form by adding *-ing* to the base form of the verb, but note:

With verbs that end in *-e*, remove *-e* and add *-ing*.
dance → *dancing*

With verbs of one syllable that end in one short vowel + consonant, repeat the consonant and add *-ing*.
clap → *clapping*

Use the Present Continuous to describe actions that are happening now, at the moment of speaking:
I'm looking for your hat right now.

Present Simple and Present Continuous

We use the Present Simple to talk about routines: what we do every day/year, and to talk about facts.

We use adverbs and expressions of frequency with the Present Simple.

We always have a pizza on Friday evenings.

We use the Present Continuous to talk about actions happening now, at or around the moment of speaking.

We use phrases like *at the moment* and *right now* with the Present Continuous.

We're having our pizza now so we can't talk to you at the moment.

Position of adjectives

We put adjectives in front of nouns.

a young man ~~a man young~~

Adjectives are the same for singular and plural nouns.

a young man *two young men*

We can use more than one adjective in front of a noun. When we do this we put opinion adjectives (e.g. *beautiful, expensive, nice*) before fact adjectives (e.g. *silk, Swiss*).

a beautiful silk dress

an expensive Swiss watch

We use adjectives after the verbs *be* and *look*.

That watch is expensive. ~~*That watch expensive is.*~~

Her jacket looks lovely. ~~*Her jacket lovely looks.*~~

Key vocabulary

Clothes

boots coat dress gloves hat jacket jeans pullover sandals scarf shirt shoes shorts skirt suit sunglasses tie trainers trousers T-shirt

Materials

cotton leather silk wool natural/man-made materials

Clothes adjectives

casual comfortable dark fashionable formal heavy informal light loose scruffy smart thick thin tight warm

Weather

Good weather:

It's sunny. It's hot. It's warm. It's cool.

Bad weather:

It's raining. It's snowing. It's cold. It's cloudy.

It's windy. It's foggy.

heat heat wave mild



ACTIVE BOOK

Listen to these words.



see Writing bank page 142