

Verb Chart

Name of Tense	When we use this Tense	Tense Structure	Helping Verb	Example
Present Simple	A regular action, habit, or fact	S +V(s)	To do (do, does)	I study every day. The sun rises in the East.
Present Progressive	An action that is happening NOW	S+HV+V+ing	To be (am, is, are)	I am studying now. I am studying English this semester.
Past Simple	An action that took place in the past, at a specific or known time	<i>a. Regular verbs:</i> S+V+ed <i>b. Irregular verbs:</i> S+V(irreg.form)	To do (did)	<i>a.</i> I studied American History last year. <i>b.</i> My sister went to Vietnam in 1999.
Past Progressive	An action that took place in the past, over a period of time. (A long action in the past.)	S+HV+V+ing	To be (was, were)	I was studying all morning yesterday. We were reading our books when the fire started.
Present Perfect	An action that <i>a.</i> began in the past and continue in the present; <i>b.</i> took place in the past, at an <i>unspecified</i> or <i>unknown</i> time.	S+HV+V(past participle form)	To have (have, has)	<i>a.</i> I have studied English for 3 years. <i>b.</i> He has seen that movie twice already.
Past Perfect	An action that took place in the past, <i>before another action in the past.</i>	S+HV+V(past participle form)	To have (had)	I had studied English for several years before I came to America. My mother immigrated to America in 1998. She had never spoken a word of English.

Name of Tense	When we use this Tense	Tense Structure	Helping Verb	Example
Present Perfect Progressive	An action that began in the past and continues in the present (see <i>a.</i> of Present Perfect), <i>when you want to emphasize how long the action took.</i>	S+has/have been+V+ing (Note that the helping verb is in the perfect tense, while the main verb has the 'ing' of the progressive tenses)	To be (in the present perfect tense)	I have been studying English for a long time.
Past Perfect Progressive	An action that took place in the past, before another action in the past (see Past Perfect), <i>when you want to emphasize how long the action took.</i>	S+had been+V+ing	To be (in the past perfect tense)	We had been studying English for many years before we came to America.
Simple Future	An action that has not yet taken place.	S+HV+V(base form)	Will	She will study for her test at 4 pm. He will study after dinner.
Future Progressive	An action that has not yet taken place, and that will take a period of time (a long action).		To be (in the future tense)	My roommate will be studying when I get home tonight.
Future Perfect	An action that has not yet taken place, and that will take place (and be completed) <i>after another action in the future.</i>	S+will have+V(in past participle form)	To have (in the future tense)	They will have studied together for two years by the time they graduate next June.
Future Perfect Progressive	An action that has not yet taken place, and that will take place (be completed) after another action in the future, <i>when you want to emphasize how long the action took..</i>	S+will have been+V+ing	To be (in the future perfect tense)	They will have been studying together for a long time when they graduate next June.