

Used to do

We use **used to do** to talk about the past. It is not a tense but it is like a tense. It is a special expression. We use the expression **used to do** for the past only.

Do not confuse **used to do** with the expression be used to. They have different meanings.

Structure of used to do

The structure is:

subject	main verb use	infinitive
I	used	to do.

Use of used to do

We use the **used to do** expression to talk about:

- an activity that we did regularly in the past (like a habit)
- a situation that was true in the past

I used to smoke.		
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past	present	future

Look at these examples.

the past	the present
She used to work in a shop.	Now she works in a bank.
He used to watch a lot of TV.	Now he doesn't watch much TV.
They used to be married.	Now they are divorced.
There used to be a cinema here.	Now there is a supermarket here.

Be used to

Be used to something

Be used to doing

Be used to is an expression. It is not a tense. If I say "I am used to Thailand", it is like saying "I am accustomed to Thailand."

Do not confuse **be used to** with the special construction used to do. They have different meanings.

Structure of be used to

The structure is:

Subject + be + used to + object

	subject	main verb be	not	used to	object
+	I	am		used to	horses.
-	He	is	not	used to	horses.
	We	aren't		used to	horses.
?	Are	you		used to	horses?

If the object involves a verb, we use the **-ing** form:

I	am	not	used to	being lied to.
He	is		used to	working late.
We	aren't		used to	taking the bus.
Are	you		used to	cooking ?

Why do we use **-ing** for a verb after **be used to**? Because we always use **-ing** for a verb after a preposition- and **to** is a preposition.

Use of be used to

Be used to is an expression for talking about something that is **familiar** to us or **easy** for us. For example:

- I **am used to** driving.

It means that it is not a problem for me to drive.

Look at these examples.

- I **am used to** hard work.
- I **am used to** working hard.
- He **is not used to** New York.
- He **isn't used to** living in New York.
- **Are you used to** fast food?
- **Are you used to** eating quickly?