

How to use 'From' in English

From is a preposition that can be used in several ways:

TO INDICATE THE ORIGIN

From is used to indicate an origin, a starting point in space:

- Where do you come **from**?
- Yoshi comes **from** Japan.
- I borrowed this computer **from** my father.
- I got an e-mail **from** her today.
- He tried to steal it **from** me.
- This passage is **from** a novel written by Stephen King.
- Can you get me a spoon **from** that drawer?

From can also indicate a starting point in time (usually to talk about the future):

- Tickets for the concert are on sale **from** Monday.

⚠ *Be from* and *come from* are always in the present when we talk about a person's origin. If we use *come from* in the past, it indicates the starting point of a trip, not the country or city where the person was born.

- Mr. Smith **comes from** New York. (He was born or he lives in New York)
- Mr. Smith **came from** New York. (Mr. Smith has travelled from New York)

FROM WITH TO/UNTIL

On utilise *from* avec les prépositions *to* ou *until* pour marquer le début et la fin d'une action dans le temps. En général, on utilise plutôt *from...to* au temps passé et *from... until* pour parler d'un événement au futur.

We use *from* with the prepositions *to* or *until* to mark the beginning and the end of an action in time. In general, we use instead *from...to* in the past times and *from... until* to talk about an event in the future.

- I work **from** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day.
- We are meeting in Paris **from** Monday until Thursday.
- The river flows **from** east to west.
- François Hollande was the president of France **from** 2012 to 2017.

From can also be used with numerical indications (prices, numbers...):

- The price went up **from** €100 to €150.
- Prices range **from** £800 to £1000 for a good laptop.
- Prices start **from** €200 per week for car rental.

We use *from ... to* to talk about changing the state of something:

- The colour of the liquid changed **from** yellow to red.

TO EXPRESS DISTANCE

With *from*, we also express the idea of a distance:

- He's moved **from** London to Tokyo.
- We are only five minutes **from** the beach.

TO EXPRESS YOUR POINT OF VIEW

From also allows you to express a point of view:

- **From** what I've heard this movie is not worth seeing.
- **From** my point of view, that makes sense.

THE CAUSE

We can use from to indicate the cause of something:

- He died **from** diarrhea and dehydration.
- Paul is suffering **from** cancer.

TO EXPRESS SEPARATION, EXCLUSION, DIFFERENTIATION

- An umbrella protects **from** the sun.
- He knows right **from** wrong.
- He's quite different **from** the others.

THE MATERIAL OF INGREDIENT

With from we can indicate where the material or ingredients from which certain things are made come from:

- Cheese is made **from** milk.
- It's made **from** wood.

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS WITH FROM

△ From is often used with the following verbs:

- borrow from...
- disappear from...
- discourage from...
- suffer from...
- prevent from...
- protect from...
- steal from...
- recover from...

△ From now on means: from this moment

- **From now on**, I will be more careful.
- **From now on**, I'll try to help you more at home..
- **From now on** I never want to clean the toilet again.

△ Other useful expressions with FROM:

- apart from : Apart from sport, I like music.
- aside from : There is nothing here aside from the library.