

Make or do in English?

Do in English

Do can be either a main verb or an auxiliary verb (to indicate the tense or appearance of another verb).

The verb DO

We use DO to talk about work, tasks, professions:

- What are you **doing**?
- I always **do** the gardening.
- Have you **done** your homework?
- I'm **doing** the housework now.
- He **did** a good job.

DO is used to talk about non-specific activities, with words like thing, something, nothing, nothing, anything, everything etc....

- I've got a lot of things to **do**.
- **Do** something!
- Is there anything I can **do** to help you?
- I **did** nothing!

DO is sometimes used to replace a verb when the meaning is obvious (more often orally):

- I need to **do** my hair.
- I'll **do** the dishes.

Do is sometimes used as the verb "to go":

- How are you **doing**?
- I'm doing well, thank you.
- That will **do**!

Do + without means 'to manage without having something':

- I can't **do** without my phone.

Do as an auxiliary verb

Do can also be an auxiliary verb for making negative questions or sentences in the present tense (with do or does) or in the preterite (with did):

- What time **does** the train leave?
- He **doesn't** like soccer.
- **Do** you speak english?
- I **don't** know.
- What **did** she do?
- She **didn't** like the movie.

Do helps to reinforce an affirmation:

- I **do** know her.

Do allows you to make a short answer with Yes or No (less direct than if you only put Yes or No):

- Do you like soccer? Yes, I **do**.
- Do you like tennis? No, I **don't**.

At the end of the sentence, so as not to repeat the verb that has just been used:

- 'I love cooking.' 'So **do** I.'

Make in English

The verb **Make** also means **to do**, more in the sense of "to manufacture": it is mainly used for the creation, construction, manufacture or production of something new:

- **make** a fire
- **make** a mistake
- **make** money
- **make** a phone call

Make is used to indicate the origin of a product or the material that is used to make something:

- This wall is **made** of concrete.
- This watch is **made** in China.
- Wine is **made** from grapes.

We also use **Make** to talk about a reaction:

- You **make** me happy.
- This music **makes** me sleepy.
- She **made** me do it!
- It **makes** me smile.

We use **make** to talk about preparations and decisions:

- He **made** the arrangements.
- I have to **make** a decision.
- Blue or red? You must **make** a choice!
- We are **making** a plan for the holidays.

Make is used with sound or sound names:

- **make** a comment
- **make** a noise
- **make** a suggestion
- **make** a speech

We use **make** to talk about cooking and eating:

- **make** a cake
- **make** breakfast / **make** lunch
- **make** some coffee
- Tom **makes** his own bread