

HABITUAL PAST BEHAVIOR



HABITUAL BEHAVIOR IN THE PAST

- The past simple is used for regular actions or habitual behavior in the past, often with a frequency adverb.
 - I hardly ever went away on holiday when I was young.
- Used to + infinitive is used to refer to past habits and situations which no longer occur or exist now.
 - We used to have cat , but he died last year.
 - I always used to walk to work until I bought a car.



HABITUAL BEHAVIOR IN THE PAST

NOTE: he negative and the questions forms:

- I didn't use to like cheese. Where did you use to live?
- NOTE: use to cannot express present habitual behavior.
 - I usually (not use to) play tennis twice a week.



HABITUAL BEHAVIOR IN THE PAST WITH **WOULD**

- Would + infinitive is used to refer to past habits, but not past situations.
- Habit: My dad would often read to me when I was a young boy.
- Situation: I used to (not would) have a bicycle
- Stative verbs such as ***have (possession), be, live, like, believe, think (have an opinion), understand and know*** are **NOT** used with would to refer to the past.



USED TO / BE USED TO/ GET USED TO

- Be used to + noun/gerund means “to be accustomed to”.
- She’s a nurse so she’s used to seeing sick people
- Get used to + noun/gerund means “become accustomed to”.
- I want to leave Athens; I can’t get used to the heat.



USED TO

+ infinitive

- used to be, used to do, etc.

repeated actions in the past

- When I was a teenager, I used to go dancing every weekend.

- As a child, I used to dream about becoming a football player

past states which are no longer true

- He used to be blond as a child.
- I used to love chocolate.

BE USED TO

+ -ing verb / noun

- be used to doing something
- be used to something

=be accustomed to (when something is not strange or difficult any more)

- I'm still not used to driving on the left.
- At first it was hard to get up at 6 a.m., but now I'm used to it.

GET USED TO

+ -ing verb / noun

- get used to doing something
- get used to something

=become accustomed to something or doing something

- I've just started my new job and I'm still getting used to working night shifts.
- It might be difficult at first, but you will get used to driving on the left.

USED TO

USED TO

We use “**used to**” to say that something happened continuously or frequently during a period in the past :

- I used to live in Manchester.
- I didn't use to like him much when we were at school.
- He used to play football for the local team, but he's too old now.

Did you use to...?

Negative: didn't use to

- I didn't use to like him.
- It didn't use to be so crowded in the shops as it is nowadays.

In very formal styles, we can use the negative form **used not to**:

- They used not to allow shops to be open on Sundays.



BE USED TO

Be used to means 'be accustomed to' or 'be familiar with'. It can refer to the past, present or future. We follow be used to with a noun phrase, a pronoun or the -ing form of a verb:

- I work in a hospital, so I'm used to long hours.
- She lives in a very small village and hates traffic. She's not used to it.

[+ -ing verb]

- I'm used to getting up early.



GET USED TO

To become familiar with sth or someone:

- Eventually you'll get used to the smells of the laboratory.
- Don't worry—you'll soon get used to his sense of humour.

[+ -ing verb]

- I didn't think I could ever get used to living in a big city after living in the country.

More formally, we can also say become used to:

- We've become used to the idea of English growing in popularity across the world.

