

Present Continuous - Structure

How do we make the present continuous tense in English?

Note: This is also called the **present progressive** tense.

Positive form

Use the **present simple of "be"** and the **verb-ing form**.

Full form	Short form
I am playing	I'm playing
you are playing	you're playing
he is playing	he's playing
she is playing	she's playing
it is playing	it's playing
we are playing	we're playing
they are playing	they're playing

For example:

- I'm having dinner.
- He's staying at a hotel.
- They are learning English.

Negative form

Put **“not”** after the **present simple of “be”**.

Full form	Short forms	
I am not playing	I'm not playing	-
you are not playing	you're not playing	you aren't playing
he is not playing	he's not playing	he isn't playing
she is not playing	she's not playing	she isn't playing
it is not playing	it's not playing	it isn't playing
we are not playing	we're not playing	we aren't playing
they are not playing	they're not playing	they aren't playing

For example:

- You **are not listening**.
- The internet **isn't working**. (it isn't working)
- She's **not sleeping**.
- We're **not watching** TV.
- They **aren't improving**.

Question forms

Like for questions with the present simple of "be", invert the subject and the present simple of "be", and then put a question word ("what", "who", etc.) at the beginning for wh-questions.

Yes/No questions	
	Am I playing?
	Are you playing?
	Is he playing?
	Is she playing?
	Is it playing?
	Are we playing?
	Are they playing?

Wh- questions	
What	am I playing?
Who	are you playing?
Where	is he playing?
When	is she playing?
Why	is it playing?
How	are we playing?
etc.	are they playing?

For example:

- **Am I doing** this right?
- **Is it raining?**
- **Are they cooking** dinner?
- How **are you feeling?**
- Where **is he going?**
- When **are we leaving?**