

Present Perfect - Structure

How do we make the present perfect tense in English?

Note: This is also called the **present perfect simple** tense.

Positive form

Use the **present simple of "have"** and the **past participle**.

Full form	Short form
I have played	I've played
you have played	you've played
he has played	he's played
she has played	she's played
it has played	it's played
we have played	we've played
they have played	they've played

For example:

- I **have played** basketball for three years.
- He's **worked** here since 2022.
- They've already **cleaned** the kitchen.

Negative form

Put **"not"** after the **present simple of "have"**.

Full form	Short forms	
I have not played	I haven't played	*I've not played
you have not played	you haven't played	you've not played
he has not played	he hasn't played	he's not played
she has not played	she hasn't played	she's not played
it has not played	it hasn't played	it's not played
we have not played	we haven't played	we've not played
they have not played	they haven't played	they've not played

*The structure in the third column is sometimes used in British English, but it is rarely used in other varieties of English. When used in other varieties, it sounds quite formal.

For example:

- I **haven't finished** my homework yet.
- Amy **hasn't been** to Australia before. (she hasn't been)
- It **has not arrived** yet.
- He **hasn't talked** to them today.
- We **'ve not seen** her all week.

Question forms

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

Yes/No questions	
	Have I played?
	Have you played?
	Has he played?
	Has she played?
	Has it played?
	Have we played?
	Have they played?

Wh- questions	
What Who Where When Why How etc.	have I played?
	have you played?
	has he played?
	has she played?
	has it played?
	have we played?
	have they played?

For example:

- Have I written it right?
- Have you found your phone?
- Has Maria emailed you yet? (has she emailed)
- What have you done today?
- How long have we lived in this house?
- Where have they gone?