



Remember to watch the video first! Then read the conversation between Sophie and Giovanni, a student she met in Italy. Sophie's helping Giovanni understand the difference between *verb + ing* and *verb + infinitive*.



**Grammar
Snacks**

After certain verbs we use the *-ing* form, and after other verbs we use the *infinitive*. Sometimes we can use either form and there is no change in meaning. Occasionally we can use either form and there is a change in meaning.



So what's the rule for whether we use the *-ing* form or the *infinitive*?

Giovanni

Sorry, there isn't a rule. You have to learn which verbs go with which pattern.

The verbs followed by *-ing* include *enjoy*, *mind*, *stop* and *recommend*.

*I told him you really **enjoy cooking**.*

*Would you **mind helping** me?*

*It didn't **stop raining** all day yesterday.*

*Daisy **recommends trying** Alfie's tiramisu.*

The negative is *verb + not + -ing*.

***Imagine not having** pizza! I eat it all the time.*

Verbs usually followed by *-ing*:

*stop finish imagine suggest recommend avoid mind
miss risk enjoy*



Sophie



I thought you could say: '*I recommend that you see that film*'?

Yes, you're right, you can. But we're not looking at the more complex patterns with *that* or an object today.



OK, what about the verbs followed by the infinitive?

These include *decide*, *want*, *promise*, *plan* and *forget*.

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She **decided to go** with Elliot instead.
 I **wanted to visit** Rome.
 She **promised to take** me there.
 I **planned to go** to some real Italian restaurants.
 She **didn't forget to phone**.

The negative is *verb + not + infinitive*.

They decided **not to make** pizza.

Here are more verbs that are usually followed by the infinitive:

*hope offer fail agree forget manage learn afford arrange
 ask expect would like decide plan promise want invite*



What about the verbs that can be followed by either form?

These include *start, begin, continue* and *bother*.

*It **started raining**.* or *It **started to rain**.*
*Don't **bother waiting** for me.* or *Don't **bother to wait** for me.*

The verbs *like, love* and *hate* can be followed by *-ing* or the *infinitive* when talking about *repeated actions*.

*I **love reading** long novels.* (British English or American English)
*I **love to read** long novels.* (American English)

But when we are talking about situations, we use the *-ing* form.

*Paulo **loves living** by the beach in Rio.*
*Do you **like working** as a waitress?*



So, '*I **love learning** grammar rules*' or '*I **love to learn** grammar rules*' are both OK?

Exactly. But there are some more verbs which can be followed by *-ing* or the infinitive, but the two options have different meanings, for example *remember* and *stop*.

*I never **remember to lock** the door, and my mum gets really angry!*
 (*remember + infinitive* = remember something and then do it)

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I never **remember locking** the door, but when I go back and check I always have.

(remember + -ing = remember something you did before)

She **stopped smoking** three years ago.

(stop + -ing = to not do something any more)

It was hot, so we **stopped to have** a drink. (we stopped walking)

(stop + infinitive = to not do something in order to do something else)



Let's stop to have a rest now.

OK, later on you can try to remember all the patterns.



Watch the video on our website!

