

Stative Verbs

Stative verbs are special verbs that don't usually occur in any progressive tense. That is, in a situation where Present Progressive, Past Progressive, or Future Progressive is usually used, these verbs will be in Simple Present, Simple Past, or Simple Future instead. In a situation where Present Perfect Progressive, Past Perfect Progressive, or Future Perfect Progressive is usually used, Present Perfect, Past Perfect, and Future Perfect will be used instead. These verbs are sometimes called Nonprogressive Verbs instead of Stative Verbs. However, some of these verbs have certain meanings that can use a progressive tense and follow the regular rules. This chart shows both.

Verb	Nonprogressive meaning	Example	Progressive meaning	Example
Love	love	I love this candy.		
Like	like	I like this soup.		
Miss	feel separation	she misses her parents		
Hate	hate	I hate this weather.		
Dislike	dislike	He dislikes this weather.		
Fear	feel afraid	He fears he failed his exam.		
Envy	feel jealousy	I envy Jane.		
Mind	feel irritation	The teacher minds if you eat in class.	take care of	He's minding the store.
Care	feel concern	I care about the environment.	take care of	He's caring for his nephews.
Know	have knowledge	I know your name.		
Think	believe	I think it is hot.	use the brain	I'm thinking about the weather.
Understand	have comprehension	I understand what you mean.		
Believe	believe	I believe it is hot.		
Doubt	don't believe	I doubt that he is home.		
Mean	have meaning	I mean that I will be late.		
Realize	understand suddenly	I realized I forgot my book.		
Remember	remember	I remembered I forgot my book		
Forget	forget	I forgot my book.		
Feel	have emotion, sense	I feel hot.	touch	He's feeling the fabric on the sofa.
Hear	use ears	I hear a noise.		
See	use eyes	I see John over there.	visit/date	He's seeing the doctor/He's seeing Liz.

Smell	have an odor Use nose not on purpose	The soup smells good. I smell smoke.	use nose on purpose	I'm smelling the flowers.
Taste	have flavor	The soup tastes good.	Use mouth on purpose	I'm tasting the soup.
Own	possess, have	I own a red car.		
Possess	have, own	I possess a red car.		
Have	own	I have a red car.		
Belong	be owned by	This car belongs to me.		
Be	sense, exist	I am hot now.	act	He's being strange.
Exist	be	Computers exist now.	survive	He's existing on rice and beans.
Consist of	be made of	This soup consists of potatoes and cheese.		
Include	have	This class includes writing.		
Seem	appear, look	You seem hot right now.		
Appear	seem, look	You appear hot right now.	perform	Brad Pitt is appearing in a new movie.
Look	seem, appear	You look hot.	use eyes	I'm looking at you.
Need	have a requirement	I need a pen right now.		
Prefer	want	I prefer a pencil.		
Want	desire	I want a drink.		
Cost	have a price	This car costs \$500.00	lose	His lie is costing him votes
Owe	need to pay	I owe the bank money.		