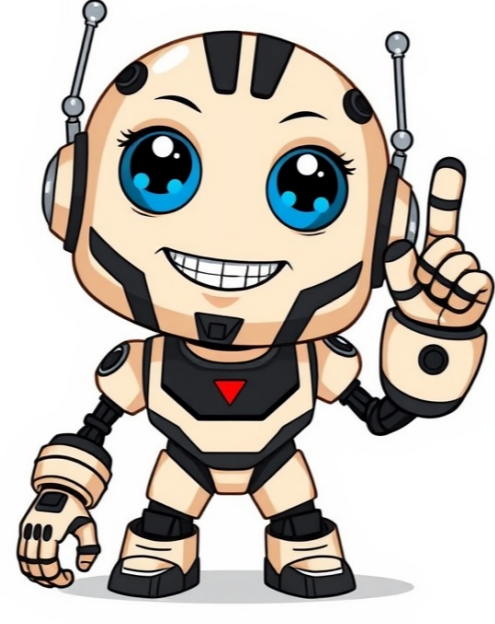


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do vs does: understanding the present tense forms of the verb The verb "to do" is used in various forms and meanings in the English language, and understanding its different definitions and usage can help improve writing skills. The third-person singular present tense form of "do" is used to indicate an action or performance of a task, as seen in examples like "She does her best work in the mornings." This verb also serves as an auxiliary in questions and negative sentences. Additionally, the phrase "does" can be used informally to mean being sufficient or adequate for a particular purpose. However, its usage should be approached with caution due to its potential derogatory connotation when referring to a foolish or naive person. The word "does" has two distinct origins: one related to the verb form and the other from the plural noun of "doe," referring to female deer, hares, or kangaroos. Understanding these different meanings can provide insight into the complexities of language and its evolution. Examples are taken from various sources including books, newspapers, online publications, entertainment mediums, and general public discourse to illustrate the versatility and diversity of the verb "to do" in the English language. The origin of the word "does" dates back to before the 12th century, specifically referring to a female deer. Here's a list of phrases and idioms using "does," or its base form "do," where "does" would grammatically fit: How does that work? What does it take? Whatever does it mean? As the crow does fly It does the trick. He does his bit. She does him justice. It does no good. If the shoe does fit... He does a good job. do vs. does: a complete guide for ESL learners, teachers, and English grammar lovers When to use "do" and when to use "does". Both words are forms of the verb "to do," and they play important roles in forming questions, negatives, emphasis, and more. ### Definitions What is "do/does" as an auxiliary verb? As auxiliary verbs (also called helping verbs), do and does are used in the present simple tense to: Make questions, Make negatives, Add emphasis Examples: Do you like pizza? He does not like rain. I do understand you. ### Function What is "do/does" as a main verb? As main verbs, do and does mean perform / carry out / complete an action Examples: I do my homework every evening. She does the dishes after dinner. ### Rules of Do and Does Subject-Verb Agreement (Core Rule) Subject Type Use I / you / we / they do he / she / it / singular nouns do es plural nouns (dogs, people, cars) do es most singular indefinite pronouns (everyone, someone, nobody) do es Examples: I do yoga every morning. He does yoga every morning. They do yoga together. ### Edge Cases You Must Know Case Rule Example Singular "they" Takes do They do their best. Collective nouns (team, staff) Usually does in American English; can be do in British English The team does practice. / The team do practice. Indefinite pronouns Everyone / someone / no one – does Many / few – do Everyone does agree. Few do disagree. Tricky singulars Words like news, mathematics are singular – does The news does spread quickly. ### Forming Affirmative Sentences In simple present tense, do/does is not needed in affirmative sentences unless for emphasis Subject Example I / we / they They play football. he / she / it She plays football. Only use "do/does" in affirmatives for emphasis: I do enjoy my job. He does work hard. ### Forming Negatives We use do not (don't) or does not (doesn't) + base verb Subject Negative Form Example I / you / we / they do not / don't + base verb They don't eat meat. he / she / it does not / doesn't + base verb She doesn't like coffee. Important: She doesn't like tea. – Wrong She doesn't like tea. – Correct Forming Questions Structure: Do / Does + Subject + Base Verb? Example Do they work here? Does she live in New York? Do you play the guitar? ### Subject Questions (No Do/Does) When who / what is the subject, we do not use do/does Who called you? What makes you happy? ### Short Answers & Tag Questions Question Short Answer Tag Do you like ice cream? Yes, I do. You like ice cream, don't you? Does he work here? No, he doesn't. He works here, doesn't he? ### Emphatic "Do/Does" Use "do/does" to show strong feeling or contrast. I do care! She does know the answer. He does love you. ### Imperatives (Commands) We can use do in polite or emphatic commands. "Does" is not used in imperatives. Do sit down. Do help yourself to some cake. Ellipsis / Substitution with "do" He likes jazz, and so do I. She loves reading, and so does Tom. I don't like it, and neither does she. ### Inversion After Negatives We use do/does after certain negative adverbs (rarely, never, not only, seldom): Not only does she speak English, she also speaks Spanish. Rarely do they complain. Differences Between Do and Does Let's summarize the key differences. Person & Number Subject Correct Verb I / you / we / they do he / she / it / singular nouns do es Form & Spelling Base Negative Contraction do do not don't does does not doesn't After "doesn't," the main verb must be in base form (no "-s"). Use in Emphasis & Style I do want to go! – Emphasis He does care! – Strong emotion Both do and does add strength or contrast to a sentence. Do vs Does With Comparison Chart Subject Auxiliary Affirmative Negative Question Short Answer I do play I don't play Do I play? Yes, I do. you do you do work You don't work Do you work? No, you don't. we do we do agree We do agree Do we agree? Yes, we do. they do they do study They don't study Do they study? Yes, they do. he does he does run He doesn't run. Does he run? No, he doesn't. she does she does help She doesn't help. Does she help? Yes, she does. it does it does work It doesn't work. Does it work? No, it doesn't. everyone does everyone does agree Everyone doesn't agree. Does everyone agree? Yes, everyone does. the team (AmE) does The team does train. The team doesn't train. Does the team train? Yes, it does. ### Do and Does Examples Let's look at 40+ real-world examples. Everyday Conversation (10) Do you like pizza? She does yoga every morning. We do our shopping on Sundays. He doesn't drink coffee. Do they know each other? Does it hurt? I do my best every day. She doesn't talk much. Do you understand? Yes, I do. Academic / Workplace (10) Does the report include financial data? We do weekly team meetings. He does research in physics. The students do homework daily. Do you have any questions? She doesn't miss deadlines. The manager does performance reviews. Do you submit your assignments on time? It does improve productivity. The company does support remote work. Emphatic & Stylistic (8) I do want to help. He does care about you. She does understand the problem. They do believe in fairness. We do appreciate your effort. It does make a difference. I do agree with you. He does know the answer. Subject Questions vs Auxiliary Questions (6) Who called you? (subject question) What makes her happy? Who does call you every day? (emphasis only) What does she eat for lunch? (auxiliary question) Who does know the truth? (emphatic tone) What do they do on paraphrased text here ### ENDARTICLE

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