



EAP/ESL

UCR Learning Center

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Stative Verbs

There are some verbs in English that NEVER use the present progressive tense. Even if you see a present progressive clue word, do NOT use the present progressive with the following verbs. Instead, always use the simple present tense.

forget	need	hate	have	hear	be
know	want	like	owe	see	cost
remember	love	own	smell	look	think
sound	seem	understand	taste	weigh	

There are exceptions to this rule!

You may use the present progressive with the following idiomatic expressions:

- Have trouble
- Have a problem
- Have fun
- Have a good time
- Have dinner (lunch, breakfast, supper, a snack, a treat)
- Look at
- Look into
- Look for
- Think about
- Think of