

Gerunds and Infinitives

Verbs followed by a gerund

acknowledge	delay	escape	keep	propose	risk
admit	deny	explain	mention	quit	suggest
advise	detest	feel like	mind	recall	support
appreciate	discontinue	finish	miss	recommend	tolerate
avoid	discuss	forgive	postpone	report	understand
can't help	dislike	give up	practice	resent	
celebrate	endure	imagine	prevent	resist	
consider	enjoy	justify	prohibit		

Verbs followed directly by an infinitive

afford	choose	hesitate	need	promise	volunteer
agree	consent	hope	neglect	refuse	wait
appear	decide	hurry	offer	request	want
arrange	deserve	intend	pay	seem	wish
ask	expect	learn	plan	struggle	would like
attempt	fail	manage	prepare	swear	yearn
can't wait	grow	mean	pretend		

Verbs followed by an object before an infinitive*

advise	convince	get*	order	remind	urge
allow	enable	help*	pay	request	want*
ask*	encourage	hire	permit	require	warn
cause	expect*	invite	persuade	teach	wish*
challenge	forbid	need*	promise*	tell	would like*
choose*	force				

* In the active voice, these verbs can also be followed by the infinitive without an object (example: *want to speak* or *want someone to speak*).

Verbs followed by either a gerund or infinitive

begin	hate	remember*
can't stand	like	start
continue	love	stop*
forget*	prefer	try
	regret	

* There is a complete difference in meaning when these verbs are followed by a gerund or an infinitive.

I forgot **closing** the window. (= I forgot that I did it.)

I forgot **to close** the window. (= I didn't do it because I forgot.)

I remembered **locking** the door. (= I have a memory of having locked it.)

I remembered **to lock** the door. (= I didn't forget to lock it.)

I stopped **smoking**. (= I stopped the habit.)

I stopped **to smoke**. (= I stopped what I was doing in order to smoke.)

Adjectives followed by an infinitive*

afraid	curious	disturbed	fortunate	pleased	shocked
alarmed	delighted	eager	glad	proud	sorry
amazed	depressed	easy	happy	ready	surprised
angry	determined	embarrassed	hesitant	relieved	touched
anxious	disappointed	encouraged	likely	reluctant	upset
ashamed	distressed	excited	lucky	sad	willing

* EXAMPLE: I'm willing **to accept** that.