

# USED TO, BE USED TO, GET USED TO

## PART 1: USED TO + VERB = TO TALK ABOUT THINGS THAT WE DID IN THE PAST BUT DON'T DO THEM ANY-MORE

### EXAMPLES:

1. Mary **used to live** in New York, but now she lives in Illinois. (in the past Mary lived in New York but now she lives in Illinois)
2. When I was a child, I **used to watch** cartoons every day after school. Now, I rarely watch TV. (something that I did in the past, but I don't do anymore)
3. Kyle **didn't use to exercise** every day, but now he does.
4. I **didn't use to like** Sushi, but now I do.
5. What **did** you **use to do** that you don't do anymore?  
• Possible answers: I **used to play** soccer/ **play** the piano / **take** ballet lessons/ **live** with my parents

## HOW TO MAKE SENTENCES AND QUESTIONS

Affirmative: Subject + used to + verb

1. I **used to watch cartoons**, but now I watch reality TV.
2. I **used to live in Chicago**, but now I live in Campinas.
3. **When I was a child**, I **used to ride my bike nearly every day**. Now, I drive.

Negative: Subject + did not (didn't) use to + verb

1. Susan **didn't use to drink coffee**, but now she does every day.
2. I **didn't use to like English**, but now I do.
3. I **didn't use to wear glasses**, but now I need to.

Interrogative: Did + subject + use to + verb?

1. **Did you use to smoke?**
2. **Did you use to play the piano?**
3. **What did you use to do that you don't do anymore?**

## PART 2: BE + USED TO + GERUND OR A NOUN = TO TALK ABOUT WHAT IS FAMILIAR TO US /NORMAL FOR US

**BE (am, is, are) + USED TO + GERUND (-ING)**

### EXAMPLES:

1. I **am used to waking up** early. (used to + gerund -ING; it is a normal habit for me)
2. I'm **not used to eating** rice and beans every day. (it is not a normal habit for me)
3. Jenny **is used to working** the night shift. (it is a normal habit for Jenny)
4. **Are you used to studying** English every day? Yes! I'm used to studying English every day./ No, I'm not used to studying English every day

# USED TO, BE USED TO, GET USED TO

## BE (am, is, are) + USED TO + NOUN

### EXAMPLES:

1. Kelly **is used to** her new routine. (Kelly = subject, is = be, routine = noun; she is comfortable with her routine, it is familiar) / Kelly **is not used to** her new routine.
2. The children **are used to** the hot weather. (children = subject, are = be, weather = noun; the hot weather is normal to the children) / The children **are not used to** the hot weather.

### Affirmative: Subject + be + used to + gerund OR noun

1. I am used to driving in the snow.
2. We are used to eating spicy food.
3. They are used to the high altitude.

### Negative: Subject + be + not used to + gerund OR noun

1. I am not used to the hot weather yet.
2. The children are not used to living in an apartment.
3. Patricia is not used to working so many hours.

### Interrogative: BE + subject + used to + gerund OR noun?

1. Are you used to living in Brazil?
2. Is Maggie used to working at night?
3. Are Kelly and Peter used to having pets in their house?

## PART 3 - BE + GET/GETTING USED TO + GERUND OR NOUN = IN THE PROCESS OF SOMETHING BECOMING NORMAL OR FAMILIAR

### Subject + be + getting + used to + gerund OR noun

### EXAMPLES:

1. I'm **getting used to studying** English every day. (I'm still not completely familiar or comfortable 100%, but I'm in the process)
2. Karen **is getting used to driving** in the snow. (she is still getting familiar with driving in the snow)
3. The children **are getting used to** their new school. (the children are in the process of getting comfortable with the new school)
4. I'm **getting used to** my new schedule. (I have a new schedule and I'm adapting to it)

### Affirmative: Subject + BE + getting used to + gerund OR noun

1. I am getting used to my new job.
2. I am getting used to waking up early.
3. The children are getting used to their new school.

# USED TO, BE USED TO, GET USED TO

**Negative: Subject + BE + NOT + getting used to + gerund OR noun**

1. We are not getting used to city life.
2. I am not getting used to waking up early.
3. They are not getting used to the cultural differences.

**Interrogative: BE + subject + getting used to + gerund OR noun**

1. Are you getting used to eating rice and beans every day?
2. Is your grandma getting used to her new caretaker?
3. Is Julie getting used to her short hair?

## TIP

USED TO can also be used with other verb tenses:

I'm getting used to waking up early. (present continuous)

I was getting used to waking up early. (past continuous)

I got used to waking up early. (past)

I will get used to waking up early. (future)

I have been getting used to waking up early. (present perfect continuous)

## SOME PRACTICE QUESTIONS

### 1. Where did you use to work?

• Possible answers: I **used to work** at Starbucks but now I work at IBM. / I **used to work** at a school but now I work at a university.

### 2. Are you used to studying English every day?

• Possible answers: Yes, I'm **used to studying** English every day. / No, I'm **not used to studying** English every day. OR I'm **getting used to studying** English every day.