

# MÓDULO 01 - HANG ON AND HOLD ON

## DEFINITION

1. HANG ON/HOLD ON (TO) - to physically hold something with your hands or body
2. HANG ON/HOLD ON - to keep going (don't give up or lose hope); remain strong
3. HANG ON/HOLD ON - to wait

HANG ON/HOLD ON are inseparable.

Both are irregular verbs

(HANG - HUNG/HANGED - HUNG/HANGED)

(HOLD - HELD - HELD)

## EXAMPLES AND EXPLANATIONS

**Hang on/Hold on (to) = 1) to firmly hold something with your hands or body**

### 1. Present tense

Every time I go on a **roller coaster** I have to *hold on* tightly to the **safety** bar because I'm so scared I'll fall.

- roller coaster = montanha russa (not a Russian mountain)
- safety x security = both mean "segurança" safety refers to your well-being (physically and emotionally). Security refers to being protected from outside harm.
  - o The safety (physical well-being) of our employees is our number one priority. That is why everyone must wear proper equipment while working in the factory.
  - o Airport security (protection from outside harm) has been very tight ever since the September 11th attacks.

### 2. Present continuous

Michael *is hanging on* to his hat, so he doesn't **lose** it.

MISS X LOSE

- Miss - "perder" opportunities, events or transportation.
  - o We missed our flight.
  - o I'm sorry I missed your call.
- Miss also means "sentir falta."
  - o I missed my family when I was studying abroad.
- Lose - "perder" items, belongings, animals or people
  - o I lost my car keys.
  - o Maya lost her passport.
- Lose also means the opposite of "win."
  - o I can't believe we lost the soccer game.

### 3. Past simple

Katherine *held on* to the door handle, hesitating before going into her **boss'** office.

- boss' - For words that end in -s, you can simply add an apostrophe to show possession. With other words, that don't end in S, you need to add -'s
  - o This is Chris' car. x This is Katie's car.

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- Also, in Portuguese, you will often use the preposition “de” while showing possession. But, in English, we don’t always say “of...” As a general rule, when we are talking about people, animals or countries, we usually (not always, but usually) use “-’s” to show possession.
  - o My mom’s dog
  - o The girl’s purse
  - o The King’s castle
  - o The bird’s nest
  - o Brazil’s rainforests
- When we are talking about objects or other things, we sometimes use “of (the thing)” or, what usually happens, is the object becomes an adjective.
  - o The tire of my bike = My bike tire (not my bike’s tire)
  - o The engine of the car = The car engine (not the car’s engine)
  - o The trunk of the tree = The tree trunk (not the “tree’s trunk)

## 4. Past continuous

My siblings thought they were *holding on* to the **dog’s leash**, but he escaped.

- Here’s another perfect example of how to show possession
  - o “...the dog’s leash” (NOT “the leash of the dog”) because the dog is an animal.
- my siblings = my brothers and sisters (not my brothers)
  - o I have 3 siblings, one sister and two brothers.

## 5. Used to (+ be used to/get used to do)

The Souza family *is used to hanging on to* very traditional values.

**Hang on/Hold on = 2) to keep going (don’t give up or lose hope); remain strong**

## 6. Future (will)

I know things may become hard, but you *will have to hang on*.

## 7. Present perfect continuous

My **folks** have been telling me not to lose hope, but to *hold on* and not give up.

- folks = informal way to say “parents” or “people from a specific area”
  - o I really like your folks! = I really like your parents!
  - o Folks from this part of town are very friendly. = The people from this part of town are very friendly.

## 8. Future

Medical school is really hard. **Hang on in there**, and you’ll make a fine doctor.

- “Hang on in there!” - expression that means “Stay strong and don’t give up!”

## 9. Conditionals (third conditional)

If we *hadn’t held on*, we wouldn’t have graduated from **college**.

COLLEGE X UNIVERSITY

- College (2-year program) x University/College (4-year program)
- After high school, when you study at an institution, in a 4-year program, that institution can be called a “university” or a “college.”
  - o I went to college at the University of Iowa.
  - o I’m in college at the University of Iowa.

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- If you go to a community college (a 2-year program), you would not use the word “university.”
  - o I’m going to college for my associates degree (a 2-year program) - NOT “university”

## Hang on/Hold on = 3) to wait

*In this meaning, sometimes we use “hold” without the preposition ON to say “wait.” You cannot do this with HANG ON.*

*“Please hold a minute.” (without the preposition) OR “Please hang on a minute.”*

## 10. Past simple

I was on the phone with a friend when she asked me to *hold on* for a moment while she went to **answer the door**.

- Answer (not “attend”) the door/the phone/the question
  - o Can you please answer the phone?

## PRACTICE

Tell me about a time when you had to physically hang on to something to prevent yourself from falling.

*Ex. I remember a VERY windy day in Chicago in which I had to hang on to the trees and fences and anything else while I was walking home. I thought I was going to blow away!*