

Used To: Overview

FORM:

USED TO + BASE VERB

- For statements / affirmations use “**used to + verb**”.

*He **used to** travel a lot for his job.*

- For questions and negations **do not** add the final “d” – “**use to + verb**”.

Generally, the verb “**to do**” is used in questions and negative sentences.

*Did you **use** to eat meat?*

*I **didn't use** to eat meat.*

There is an exception to this rule, when the word “never” is used.

*I **never used to** smoke.*

USE:

“**Used to + base verb**” tells us that the main verb describes a long-term or habitual past situation, which does not exist now. This form is only used for past situations. It has no present tense. The simple present tense is used to express a present habit.

E.g. *He **calls** her everyday. (present)*

*He **used to** call her everyday. (past)*

Complete the following sentences using USED TO and WHEN / BEFORE / AFTER where needed.

1. They used to jog every day before _____
2. She used to swim every day when _____
3. He used to take the bus to work after _____
4. When I lived in Nova Scotia, I _____
5. Tom used to eat out every evening when _____
6. She didn't use to _____ when _____
7. Before they moved to a small town, they didn't _____
8. Before he graduated, he didn't _____
9. You didn't use to eat so much after _____
10. I didn't use to study so much when _____
11. Did they use to _____
12. When you lived in Africa, did you _____
13. After he returned to Canada, did he _____
14. Before his heart attack, did he _____
15. When you knew him, did he _____

Complete each sentence with USED TO + A VERB.

1. The baby doesn't cry so much now, but she _____ every night.
2. Kathy _____ my best friend, but we aren't friends anymore.
3. We live in Barcelona now, but we _____ in Madrid.
4. Now there's only one pub in the village, but there _____ three.
5. When I was a child, I _____ at my grandmother's house in the summer.
6. Now Kevin has a car. He _____ a bike.

Write sentences about the present.

1. Rick used to study hard, but now _____.
2. Sam didn't use to smoke, but now _____.
3. Mike used to play soccer a lot, but now _____.
4. Mary never used to drink tea, but now _____.
5. John didn't use to go out much, but now _____.
6. Jenny didn't use to be athletic, but now _____.

Write six true sentences about your lifestyle.

Example: I used to take piano lessons. I didn't use to eat vegetables.

1. _____.
2. _____.
3. _____.
4. _____.
5. _____.
6. _____.