

The verb "To be" - Form

The Simple Present Tense of the verb *To be*:

Affirmative form

Subject	To be	Contraction
I	am	I'm
You	are	You're
He / She /It	is	He's / She's / It's
We	are	We're
You	are	You're
They	are	They're

EXAMPLES

- I **am** here now.
- You **are** a doctor.
- He **is** 17 years old.
- She **is** beautiful.
- It **is** a big book.
- We **are** friends.
- You **are** married.
- They **are** from Colombia.

Negative form

The negative form of simple present tense with "To be" can be made by adding **not** after the verb.

Subject	To be	Two ways of forming contractions	
I	am not	I'm not	-
You	are not	You're not	You aren't
He	is not	He's not	He isn't
She	is not	She's not	She isn't
It	is not	It's not	It isn't
We	are not	We're not	We aren't
You	are not	You're not	You aren't
They	are not	They're not	They aren't

EXAMPLES

- I'm **not** happy.
- **Kevin's not** my neighbor.
- That's **not** right.
- Susan and Leo **aren't** married.

- My wife and I **are not** interested in Facebook.

Questions form and answers

The question form of simple present tense with “To be” can be made by putting the verb before the subject.

To be	Subject	
Am	I	happy?
Are	you	happy?
Is	he / she / it	happy?
Are	we	happy?
Are	you	happy?
Are	they	happy?

EXAMPLES

- **Am** I early? Yes, you are. / No, you aren't
- **Are** you happy? Yes, I am. / No, I'm not.
- **Is** he French? Yes, he is. / No, he isn't
- **Is** she from France? Yes, she is. / No, she's not.
- **Is** it a small house? Yes, it is. / No, it's not.
- **Are** we ready? Yes, we are. / No, we aren't.
- **Are** you engineers? Yes, we are. / No, we're not.
- **Are** they angry? Yes, they are. / No they aren't.

You can add a **question word** (why, where, how, who, etc.) before the verb to be (**am, is** or **are**) to ask for more information.

EXAMPLES

- **Why** am I hungry?
- **Where** are you?
- **How** is he?
- **Who** is she?
- **How** is the weather today?
- **Where** are we?
- **How** are you?
- **Why** are they angry?