ENGLISH GRAMMAR · DEEP DIVE

Have and Get Something Done

The structure for things you arrange rather than do yourself, 'I had my hair cut', and how it differs from 'I cut my hair', which says something quite different about your afternoon.

B2 · causative · have something done · get somebody to do

have + object + participle

Someone else does it for you.

I had my hair cut.

We had the kitchen painted last month.

something unwelcome

Nobody arranged it: it happened to you.

He had his wallet stolen.

She had her flight cancelled.

have sb do · get sb to do

Instruction (bare) or persuasion (to).

had him fix · got him to fix

I finally got him to apologise.

TENSE	FORM	EXAMPLE
present continuous	am having + object + participle	I **am having** the house painted.
present perfect	have had + object + participle	I **have had** my hair cut.
future	will have + object + participle	I **will have** the car serviced.
question	do / did + have: have is a full verb	**Did** you **have** it repaired?

1 Have something done

Complete with have / get in the right form + the object + the participle.

1 I _____ (have / my hair / cut) yesterday afternoon.

2 We _____ (have / the kitchen / paint) last month.

3 I am _____ (have / the house / paint) this week.

4 You should _____ (get / that cough / look at).

5 I _____ (will have / the car / service) next week.

6 She _____ (have / her groceries / deliver) every week.

7 I _____ (have had / my eyes / test) since we last met.

8 He _____ (have / his wallet / steal) on the train.

9 They _____ (have / their house / burgle) last winter.

10 Did you _____ (have / your car / repair) at the garage?

2 Do, to do or done?

Put the verb in brackets in the right form.

1 I had the plumber _____ (fix) the leak.

2 I finally got him _____ (apologise).

3 They made us _____ (wait) outside in the rain.

4 We were made _____ (wait) outside.

5 I had my car _____ (repair) at the garage.

6 Can you get someone _____ (look) at the heating?

7 She had her photograph _____ (take) for the passport.

8 My parents let me _____ (stay) up late.

3 Spot the mistake

Each sentence has one mistake. Write the correct sentence on the line.

1 I had cut my hair at the hairdresser's.

2 I repaired my car at the garage yesterday.

3 Have you your hair cut recently?

4 I got the plumber fix the leak.

5 They made us to wait outside.

6 He was stolen his wallet on the train.

Remember The object goes in the middle: I had my hair cut. I had cut my hair is a past perfect: you did it yourself.

4 A busy week

Complete with have / get + object + participle, or the right infinitive.

What a week! On Monday I [1] _____ (my car / service) at the garage. On Tuesday I [2] _____ (my eyes / test). On Wednesday the landlord finally had a plumber [3] _____ (fix) the shower, and on Thursday I [4] _____ (my hair / cut). Then on Friday I [5] _____ (my bag / steal) on the bus! The police made me [6] _____ (fill in) three forms. In the end I got my brother [7] _____ (drive) me home. Next week I'm [8] _____ (the locks / change).

5 With to or without?

Which verbs take a bare infinitive, and which take to? Sort the patterns.

have sb … | make sb … | let sb … | help sb … (also) | get sb … | ask sb … | be made … | want sb …

bare: do

with to: to do

Where are the answers?

The answers, with an explanation for each one, are in the LinguaBite app. Open this Deep Dive and scroll to Downloads at the bottom of the article: once you have downloaded this worksheet, its answers appear there after a couple of days, so you do the exercises first. You can choose 1, 2 or 3 days in the app's Settings.

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