

## Unit 34: HAVE TO / NEED TO / NEEDN'T

We use these verbs to talk about necessity.

### 1 Formation

a **have to / need to** We can make all verb formations with these verbs. For example:

**Present simple**  
(Unit 19) He **has to work** nine hours a day, but he **doesn't have to work** very hard.

Let's stop. We **don't need to finish** today.

**Past simple**  
(Unit 21) **Did** they **have to go** to work?  
Yes, they **had to go** to work.

I **needed to do** a number of things, but I didn't have enough time.

**Present perfect**  
(Unit 24) She **has had to stay** behind to balance the deposit slip.

**With modal verbs**  
(Unit 27) I **may have to go** and help that customer.  
If we want to display these new items, we **will need to move** those boxes.

**NOTICE:** We always use base form (Unit 14) after **to**. We say **he had to go** (NOT *he had to went*).

b **needn't** is a modal verb (Unit 27)

We **needn't finish** today.

### 2 Use: necessity

a **general** Seniors **don't** usually **have to pay** full prices on Wednesdays.  
You **need to show** your identification to get the discount.

b **present and future time** I **have to find** someone to work today.  
We can't find someone to work tonight; we'**ll have to close** the store early.  
You **needn't work** a double shift. We'll just close the store early.

**NOTICE:** We also use **have got to** for present and future necessity (Unit 36).

**c**     **past time**                    There were no available employees. I **had to hire** someone new.  
The manager said that the staff all **had to go** for training.

**NOTICE:** The meanings of **have to**, **need to** and **needn't** are not exactly the same (Unit 35).