

## Hebben ("to have")

The verb "hebben" (which means "to have" in English) is an irregular verb that has many uses. Hebben is one of the most important Dutch verbs.

### The Simple Present Tense forms of "Hebben"

	Dutch		English	
Singular	ik	heb	I	have
	hij / zij / het ('t)	heeft	he / she / it	has
	je / jij	hebt	you (informal*)	have
	u	hebt	you (formal*)	have
Plural	wij	hebben	we	have
	jullie	hebben	you (informal*)	have
	u	hebt	you (formal*)	have
	zij	hebben	they	have

\* These are the same in English.

### **Examples:**

*	<i>Ik heb een hond.</i>	<i>I have a dog.</i>
*	<i>Zij heft een baan.</i>	<i>She has a job.</i>
*	<i>Je hebt een huis.</i>	<i>You have a house.</i>
*	<i>Wij hebben een auto.</i>	<i>We have a car.</i>
*	<i>Jullie hebben tijd.</i>	<i>You (all) have time.</i>
*	<i>Zij hebben te veel tijd.</i>	<i>They have too much time.</i>

### The Simple Past Tense forms of "Hebben"

	Dutch		English	
Singular	ik	had	I	had
	hij / zij / het ('t)	had	he / she / it	had
	je / jij	had	you (informal*)	had
	u	had	you (formal*)	had
Plural	wij	hadden	we	had
	jullie	hadden	you (informal*)	had
	u	had	you (formal*)	had
	zij	hadden	they	had

\* These are the same in English.

### **Examples:**

*	<i>Gisteren had ik te veel werk.</i>	<i>Yesterday I had too much work.</i>
*	<i>Zij had mazelen.</i>	<i>She had measles.</i>
*	<i>Gisteren hadden wij plezier op het kermisterrein.</i>	<i>Yesterday we had fun at the fairground.</i>
*	<i>U had een belangrijke invitatie.</i>	<i>You (formal+plural) had an important invitation.</i>
*	<i>Zij hadden vorige week tijd.</i>	<i>They had time last week.</i>

**The Perfect Tense forms of "Hebben"**

	<b>Dutch</b>		<b>English</b>	
Singular	ik	heb ... gehad	I	have had ...
	hij / zij / het ('t)	heeft ... gehad	he / she / it	has had ...
	je / jij	hebt ... gehad	you (informal*)	have had ...
	u	hebt ... gehad	you (formal*)	have had ...
Plural	wij	hebben ... gehad	we	have had ...
	jullie	hebben ... gehad	you (informal*)	have had ...
	u	hebt ... gehad	you (formal*)	have had ...
	zij	hebben ... gehad	they	have had ...

\* *These are the same in English.*

**Examples:**

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|---|--|
| * <i>Ik heb te veel zon gehad.</i>                | <i>I have had too much sun.</i>              |
| * <i>Hij heeft een gesprek met haar gehad.</i>    | <i>He has had a conversation with her.</i>   |
| * <i>Zij heeft een schok gehad.</i>               | <i>She has had a shock.</i>                  |
| * <i>Wij hebben een goede vakantie gehad.</i>     | <i>We have had a good holiday.</i>           |
| * <i>Jullie hebben een lange pauze gehad.</i>     | <i>You (all) have had a long rest.</i>       |
| * <i>Zij hebben wijn met hun avondeten gehad.</i> | <i>They have had wine with their dinner.</i> |

**The Future Tense forms of "Hebben" (using "zullen")**

The Dutch verb *zullen* is used in conjunction with another verb (in this case "hebben"), to refer to actions in the future in much the same way as the words "will", or "shall" are used in English, e.g. "I will have something tomorrow", or "I shall have something tomorrow". However, in English these words are often simplified in everyday speech to: "I'll have something tomorrow".

	<b>Dutch</b>		<b>English</b>	
Singular	ik	zal ... hebben	I	will/shall have ...
	hij / zij / het ('t)	zal ... hebben	he / she / it	will/shall have ...
	je / jij	zult ... hebben	you (informal*)	will/shall have ...
	u	zult ... hebben	you (formal*)	will/shall have ...
Plural	wij	zullen ... hebben	we	will/shall have ...
	jullie	zullen ... hebben	you (informal*)	will/shall have ...
	u	zult ... hebben	you (formal*)	will/shall have ...
	zij	zullen ... hebben	they	will/shall have ...

\* *These are the same in English.*

**Examples:**

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|--|--|
| * <i>Ik zal op dinsdag ontbijt met u hebben.</i>               | <i>I will have breakfast with you (formal) on Tuesday.</i> |
| * <i>Hij zal onvoldoende tijd hebben om dat te beëindigen.</i> | <i>He will have insufficient time to finish that.</i>      |
| * <i>Wij zullen een mooie tijd aan de kust hebben.</i>         | <i>We will have a nice time at the coast.</i>              |
| * <i>U zult het op vrijdag hebben.</i>                         | <i>You (formal+singular) will have it on Friday.</i>       |
| * <i>Zij zullen rode handboeken volgend jaar hebben.</i>       | <i>They will have red textbooks next year.</i>             |

**The Future Tense forms of "Hebben" (using "gaan")**

The Dutch verb gaan may be used in conjunction with another verb (in this case "hebben"), to refer to actions in the future in much the same way as the verb "go" in English, e.g. "I am going to have something tomorrow".

	<b>Dutch</b>		<b>English</b>	
Singular	ik	ga ... hebben	I	am going to have ...
	hij / zij / het ('t)	gaat ... hebben	he / she / it	is going to have ...
	je / jij	gaat ... hebben	you (informal*)	are going to have ...
	u	gaat ... hebben	you (formal*)	are going to have ...
Plural	wij	gaan ... hebben	we	are going to have ...
	jullie	gaan ... hebben	you (informal*)	are going to have ...
	u	gaat ... hebben	you (formal*)	are going to have ...
	zij	gaan ... hebben	they	are going to have ...

\* *These are the same in English.*

**Examples:**

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|---|--|---|
| * | <i>Ik ga het in ieder geval hebben.</i>              | <i>I am going to have it anyway.</i>                                |
| * | <i>Hij gaat de dag van volgende woensdag hebben.</i> | <i>He is going to have the day off next Wednesday.</i>              |
| * | <i>Wij gaan thee met onze vrienden hebben.</i>       | <i>We are going to have tea with our friends.</i>                   |
| * | <i>Jullie gaan te veel werk hebben om to doen.</i>   | <i>You (informal+plural) are going to have too much work to do.</i> |
| * | <i>Zij gaan een rit op een trein hebben.</i>         | <i>They are going to have a ride on a train.</i>                    |