

Make Vs. Do

Common Expressions with Make & Do

A. Make

Speaking

- make a suggestion
- make an offer
- make a complaint
- make a toast
- make a comment
- make a demand
- make an excuse
- make a point
- make a promise
- make a phone call

Cooking

- make breakfast
 - make lunch
 - make dinner
 - make a cake
 - make a sandwich
 - make coffee/tea
- *but do the cooking*

Planning

- make a decision
- make a choice
- make an appointment
- make plans
- make a date

Business

- make a deal
 - make an offer
 - make a sale
 - make a profit
 - make a fortune
 - make a payment
- *but do business*

Other

- make a mistake
- make a change
- make noise
- make war
- make an effort
- make an exception
- make time
- make sense
- make the bed

B. Do

Work & Housework

- do homework
 - do work
 - do a job
 - do chores
 - do the dishes
 - do the shopping
 - do housework
 - do the laundry
 - do the ironing
- *but make the bed*

Good & Bad

- do well
- do good
- do great
- do badly
- do one's best
- do one's worst
- do right
- do wrong
- do harm
- do damage

Activity

- do exercises / do exercise
- do push-ups
- do sit-ups
- do a crossword puzzle
- do something
- do nothing

Other

- do a favor
- do one's hair
- do one's nails
- do without
- do the cooking
- do business

Note:

Do well means to be successful at something.
Do good means to help other people.

- She did well on the test.
- That charity does a lot of good in poor countries.

Practice

MAKE OR DO?

Fill in the blanks with *make* or *do*.

You may need to change the verb tense.

1. The teacher told his students to _____ their homework.
2. We need to _____ plans for our trip.
3. Please _____ an appointment to see the doctor.
4. Can you _____ me a favor?
5. Every year, my mother _____ me a cake for my birthday.
6. _____ time for the important people in your life.
7. Her parents were happy because she _____ well on her driving exam.
8. My brother _____ 50 push-ups every morning.
9. My cousin is shy and finds it difficult to _____ friends.
10. She always _____ her hair before leaving the house.
11. The storm _____ a lot of damage last night.
12. My father always told me to _____ my best.
13. If you're hungry, I can _____ you a sandwich.
14. That company _____ a big profit last year.
15. I'd love to go out, but I have a lot of chores to _____ .

Answer Key

Practice

- | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. do | 6. Make | 11. did |
| 2. make | 7. did | 12. do |
| 3. make | 8. does | 13. make |
| 4. do | 9. make | 14. made |
| 5. makes | 10. does | 15. do |

Optional Activity

Have students make their own fill-in-the-blank quizzes.

Pair students up and have them write five to ten sentences with a missing blank for *make* or *do*. Then get them to exchange sheets with another pair and try to fill in the blanks.

SPELLING NOTE:

This lesson shows the American spelling of the word *Favor*. Most other English-speaking countries spell it this way: *Favour*. Make it a challenge for your students to find this word in the lesson and see if they know the alternate spelling.