

Make or Do

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Make

1. To create, build, or produce something
 - She made a cake for me.
 - I made a mistake.
 - Do you want to make a reservation?

2. Cause something to happen
 - The teacher made us laugh.
 - The beautiful girl made him lose his mind.
 - She made me sad.

Common Expressions with “Make”

Make an effort	She made an effort to pass the class.
Make a mistake	I made several mistakes on my tests.
Make money	I need to make more money so I can buy a new car.
Make a phone call	I need to make a phone call to my mom.
Make friends	She made many friends in college.
Make a promise	Don't make promises that you can't keep.
Make some noise	You are making too much noise.
Make a choice	(It's time you make a choice between Mike and John.
Make your bed	Please make your bed every morning.

Common Expressions with “Make”

Make a difference	Julia is making a difference at her new job.
Make progress	I’m making progress in my English fluency.
Make an excuse	Stop making excuses for your failures.
Make sure	Please make sure you arrive on time.

Do

1. To talk about general actions or activities
 - What are you doing?
 - Did you do your homework?
 - I have a lot of work to do.

2. To describe daily or household tasks
 - I will do the dishes after dinner.
 - Don't forget to do the laundry.
 - My husband does the cooking and I do the gardening.

Common Expressions with “Do”

Do your best	She did her best on the exam.
Do the dishes	Honey, can you please do the dishes?
Do homework	Taylor always does her homework before going out to play.
Do a favor	The teacher did us a favor by accepting late assignments.
Do exercise	Doing exercise regularly is good for health.
Do a job	I’m proud of you. You did an excellent job.
Do business	I want to do business with you.
Do research	Please do some research before writing your essay.
Do well	I hope you do well on your test.
Do your hair	She is going to a wedding, so she needs to do her hair.)

Practice : Fill in the blank with “make” or “do”!

Answer Key

1. Please **do** your homework before you go out to play.
2. I need to **make** a cake for the birthday party.
3. Can you **do** me a favor? Can you carry this bag?
4. She always **does** her best on every exam.
5. I plan to **make** some changes to my essay.
6. Can you **make** a decision by the end of the day?
7. You **did** a good job on the final exam. (past tense)



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