

Grammar worksheet + exercise: be used to, get used to, used to

Be used to

If you **are used to something**, you have often done or experienced it; it is not strange, new or difficult for you.

*I **am used to** getting up early in the morning. I don't mind it.*

Structure: **be used to + noun phrase** or **be used to + verb (-ing form)**

*He didn't complain about the neighbours' loud party – he **was used to** the noise.*

*We live near a forest so we're **used to seeing** animals in our garden.*

We can also say **be used to someone**.

*I don't think Tom's strange – I'm **used to him**.*

Negative: **be not used to**

*I don't understand him: I'm **not used to** his accent yet.*

*I **am not used to** getting up early in the morning.*



Get used to

If you **get used to something**, you become accustomed to it; it is no longer unusual or strange.

Get used to is the process of becoming used to something.

*After a while he didn't mind the noise in the office; he **got used to** it.*

*Living abroad was a shock at first, but I'm slowly **getting used to** it.*

Structure:

Get used to + something/someone

Get used to + verb (-ing form)

*I **got used to his Scottish accent** after a while.*

*I **got used to waking** up early in the morning after I started my job at the factory.*



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Used to

Used to + verb infinitive refers to a habit or state in the past. It is used *only* in the past simple tense.

Past habits

If you **used to do something**, you did it for a period of time in the past, but you don't do it any more.

*We **used to live** in London.*

= We lived in London in the past, but don't live there now.

*I **used to walk** to school every day when I was a child.*

Past states

We also say **used to** to express a state that existed in the past but doesn't exist now. States are not actions. We express states with **stative verbs** such as *have, believe, know* and *like*.

*I **used to like** The Beatles, but now I never listen to them.*

*He **used to have** long hair, but now it's very short.*

*I **used to believe** in magic when I was a child.*

Questions: **did(n't) + subject + use to + verb**

***Did he use to work** in your office?*

***Didn't he use to work** in your office?*

Negatives: **subject + didn't + use to + verb** or **subject + never + used to + verb**

***I didn't use to like** wine, but now I love it.*

***I never used to like** wine, but now I love it.*



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English grammar practice exercise, intermediate

In this exercise you will practise *used to*, *be used to* and *get used to*.

Exercise instructions

Choose the best answer to fill the gap in each of the following.

1. When I started to work here I needed a lot of help, but now I _____ all the work on my own.
a. am used to doing b. used to do c. get used to doing
2. He _____ several books a month, but he doesn't have time any more.
a. was used to reading b. got used to reading c. used to read
3. We were surprised to see her driving – she _____ when we first met her.
a. didn't use to drive b. got used to driving c. was used to driving
4. Don't worry, it's a simple program to use. You _____ it in no time, I'm sure.
a. used to use b. are used to c. will get used to
5. When I had to commute to work every day I _____ very early.
a. used to getting up b. used to get up
6. I'm afraid I'll never _____ in this place. I simply don't like it and never will.
a. got used to living b. used to live c. get used to living
7. Whenever we came to Coventry we always _____ in the Central Hotel. We loved it.
a. used to stay b. got used to staying

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8. When Pete Smith was the head of our office everything _____ well organized. Now it's total chaos here.

- a. **got used to be** b. **was used to being** c. **used to be**

9. Mr Lazy was shocked when he joined our busy company because he _____ doing much work everyday.

- a. **wasn't used to** b. **didn't use to**

10. At first the employees didn't like the new open-space office, but in the end they _____ it.

- a. **got used to** b. **get used to** c. **are used to**

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Exercise key

1. When I started to work here I needed a lot of help, but now I **a. am used to doing** all the work on my own.
2. He **c. used to read** several books a month, but he doesn't have time any more.
3. We were surprised to see her driving – she **a. didn't use to drive** when we first met her.
4. Don't worry, it's a simple program to use. You **c. will get used to** it in no time, I'm sure.
5. When I had to commute to work every day I **b. used to get up** very early.
6. I'm afraid I'll never **c. get used to living** in this place. I simply don't like it and never will.
7. Whenever we came to Coventry we always **a. used to stay** in the Central Hotel. We loved it.
8. When Pete Smith was the head of our office everything **c. used to be** well organized. Now it's total chaos here.
9. Mr Lazy was shocked when he joined our busy company because he **a. wasn't used to** doing much work everyday.
10. At first the employees didn't like the new open-space office, but in the end they **a. got used to** it.

Online version of this exercise <https://goo.gl/VnEK7S>

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