

Verb + ~ing (enjoy doing/stop doing etc.)

A. Look at these examples:

- * I enjoy dancing. (not 'I enjoy to dance')
- * Would you mind closing the door? (not 'mind to close')
- * Ian suggested going to the cinema. (not 'suggested to go')

After **enjoy, mind and suggest**, we use ~ing (not to ...).

Here are some more verbs that are followed by ~ing:

**stop delay fancy consider admit miss involve finish
postpone imagine avoid deny risk practice**

1. Suddenly everybody stopped **talking**. There was silence.
2. I'll do the shopping when I've finished **cleaning** the flat.
3. He tried to avoid answering my question.
4. I don't fancy **going** out this evening.
5. Have you ever considered **going** to live in another country?

Note the negative form not ~ing:

1. When I'm on holiday, I enjoy **not having** to get up early.

B. We also use ~ing after:

give up (= stop) **put off** (= postpone) **carry on/go on** (= continue) **keep or keep on** (= do something continuously or repeatedly)

* Paula has given up smoking.

* We must do something. We can't go on living like this! (or ... carry on living ...)

* Don't keep interrupting me while I'm speaking. (or Don't keep on interrupting ...)

C. With some verbs you can use the structure:

verb + somebody + ~ing-

* I can't **imagine** George **riding** a motorbike.

* You can't **stop** me **doing** what I want.

* 'Sorry to **keep** you **waiting** so long.' 'That's all right.'

Note the **passive form** (being done/seen/kept etc.):

* I don't mind being **kept** waiting. (= I don't mind people keeping me ...)

D. When you are talking about finished actions, you can say having done/stolen/said etc.:

* She admitted having stolen the money. But it is not necessary to use having (done).

You can also use the simple ~ing form for finished actions:

* She admitted stealing the money.

* I now regret saying (or having said) what I said.

E. After some of the verbs on this page (especially admit/deny/suggest) you can use that ...

* She denied that she had stolen the money. (or She denied stealing ...)

* Ian suggested that we went to the cinema. (or Ian (... suggested going