

To Make versus To Do

Function/Definition:

The verb *to make* means to create or construct something, while the verb *to do* means to perform an action.

To Do

- do business (WITH a company or a person)

We **did business** with that company two years ago.

Your Sentence:

- do housework

She **did the housework** before going out to dinner with her friends.

Your Sentence:

- do the ironing

Karen **does the ironing** in the evening.

Your Sentence:



To Do

- do the laundry

He will **do the laundry** this Sunday after the football game.

Your Sentence:

- do the dishes

We always **do the dishes** after we eat dinner.

Your Sentence:

- do a favor (FOR someone)

He **did a big favor** for her because she asked him to.

Your Sentence:

- do research (ON something)

She is a university student **doing research** on global economics.

Your Sentence:



To Make

- make a donation (TO someone or something)

J.P. Morgan **made a donation** to the New York City Police Foundation.

Your Sentence:

- make a mistake/make an error

He **made a mistake** on his homework assignment, but I helped him correct it.

Your Sentence:

- make friends (WITH someone)

She **made friends with** her new neighbor that just moved in next door.

Your Sentence:

- make money (VERB + ING)

He **makes money** working on Wall Street.

Your Sentence:



To Make

- **make a noise**

Each time I walk in these shoes, they **make a noise**.

Your Sentence:

- **make peace/make war**

After years of fighting, they stopped **making war** and finally decided to **make peace**.

Your Sentence:

- **make a plan (TO + VERB)**

They **made plans** to visit San Francisco in October.

Your Sentence:

- **make a promise (to someone) OR make a promise (to do something)**

He **made a promise** to visit her over the holidays.

Your Sentence:



To Make

- make a speech

President Obama **made a speech** last night.

Your Sentence:

- make a comparison (between someone or something)

She always **makes comparisons** between herself and her sister.

Your Sentence:

- make a decision

They **made the decision** to move to New York City.

Your Sentence:

- make dinner

They **made dinner** together last night.

Your Sentence:



To Make

- make an appointment

I **made an appointment** at the dentist for next week.

Your Sentence:

- make arrangements

They **made arrangements** to have the birthday party at a restaurant.

Your Sentence:

- make a difference

This charity **makes a difference** in the lives of children that it serves.

Your Sentence:

- make an effort

He always **makes an effort** to improve his English, and it shows!

Your Sentence:



To Make

- **make an excuse**

Whenever we invite her to dinner, she **makes an excuse** about why she cannot come.

Your Sentence:

- **make a fortune**

Donald Trump **makes a fortune** in real estate.

Your Sentence:

- **make a mess**

The children **made a mess** while they were playing.

Your Sentence:

- **make a phone call**

He **made a phone call** to his parents to see how they were doing.

Your Sentence:



To Make

- **make a profit**

We all hope the business will **make a profit** this year.

Your Sentence:

- **make a promise**

She **made a promise** to him.

Your Sentence:

- **make a suggestion**

He **made many suggestions** to them about how to improve their company's image.

Your Sentence:

- **make time**

He **made time** to study and improve his English.

Your Sentence:

GRAMMAR SNAPSHOTS

(to) Make

- a suggestion
 - a promise
 - a phone call
 - a fortune
 - an effort
 - an excuse
 - dinner
 - a speech
 - a plan
 - a noise
 - money
 - friends
- (WITH someone)

(to) Do

- business
(WITH a company or a person)
- housework
- the ironing
- the laundry
- the dishes
- do a favor
(FOR someone)
- do research
(ON something)

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