

Like, Love, Start, Begin: -ing or To?

Some verbs take **-ing** or **to + verb** with little or no change in meaning: *It started raining / It started to rain. I love cooking / I love to cook.* Common ones: **like, love, hate, prefer, start, begin, continue.** But **would like / would love / would prefer** always take **to**.

It **started raining** . It **started to rain** .



1. Choose the right answer Circle a or b.

1. I'd like _____ a table for two.
a) booking b) to book
2. It's beginning _____ dark.
a) getting b) to get
3. I'd prefer _____ at home tonight.
a) to stay b) staying
4. She would love _____ you.
a) meeting b) to meet
5. We're starting _____ the results.
a) seeing b) to see

2. Correct the mistake

Each sentence has one mistake. Write the correct sentence.

1. I'd love going to the party.

2. It's starting raining.

3. I prefer to walking.

3. Your turn

Write three sentences of your own that use this rule. You can use these phrases.

I'd love to

I'd prefer to

I'd like to

start to

begin to

continue to

See the rule move

The full lesson, with more pictures, examples and a quiz that checks your answers, is free at
clarigram.app/gerund-infinitive/both-forms

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1. Choose the right answer

1. **b) to book** Would like takes to.
2. **b) to get** Avoid two -ing forms: beginning to.
3. **a) to stay** Would prefer takes to.
4. **b) to meet** Would love takes to.
5. **b) to see** Avoid two -ing forms: starting to.

2. Correct the mistake

1. **I'd love to go to the party.** Would love takes to.
2. **It's starting to rain.** Avoid two -ing forms in a row.
3. **I prefer walking. / I prefer to walk.** Either -ing or to + base verb, not both.

3. Your turn

Answers will vary. Check that each sentence follows the rule on page 1, or paste them into Clarigram to have them checked.