

Stop Doing vs Stop to Do

Stop doing means the activity ends: *I've stopped drinking coffee.* **Stop to do** means you stop what you're doing in order to do something else: *We stopped to drink a coffee.*

STOP DOING · THE ACTIVITY ENDS

I've **stopped drinking** coffee.



STOP TO DO · PAUSE, IN ORDER TO

We **stopped to drink** a coffee.



1. Choose the right answer Circle a or b.

- Please stop _____. I'm trying to work.
a) to talk b) talking
- We stopped _____ photos of the view.
a) to take b) taking
- He stopped _____ when the doctor told him to.
a) smoking b) to smoke
- I stopped _____ a friend on the way home.
a) visiting b) to visit
- It's stopped _____. We can go out now.
a) raining b) to rain

2. Correct the mistake

Each sentence has one mistake. Write the correct sentence.

1. I've stopped to eat sugar. I feel healthier.

2. We stopped buying petrol on the motorway.

3. Stop to make that noise!

3. Your turn

Write two sentences about your own life: one with **Stop doing** and one with **Stop to do**. Then explain the difference to a partner.

See the rule move

The full lesson, with more pictures, examples and a quiz that checks your answers, is free at clarigram.app/compare/stop-doing-vs-stop-to-do

Stop Doing vs Stop to Do

1. Choose the right answer

1. **b) talking** The talking should end: stop + -ing.
2. **a) to take** You stopped in order to take photos: stop + to.
3. **a) smoking** The habit ended: stop + -ing.
4. **b) to visit** A pause in order to visit: stop + to.
5. **a) raining** The rain ended: stop + -ing.

2. Correct the mistake

1. **I've stopped eating sugar. I feel healthier.** The habit ended: stop + -ing.
2. **We stopped to buy petrol on the motorway.** You stopped driving in order to buy petrol: stop + to.
3. **Stop making that noise!** The noise should end: stop + -ing.

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.