



USE WOULD LIKE
AND WANT



Would Like v Want

What does the verb “want” mean?

Want is a verb that means “desire” to do something. It’s used very commonly in English conversation but can be seen as rude.

Want

Present Tense	Past Simple / Participle	Present Participle

Want

Present Tense	Past Simple / Participle	Present Participle
I want You want He/She/It wants We want They want	wanted	wanting* <i>*stative verb</i>

I want some chocolate
I want a glass of water
I want some information

What does the expression “would like” mean?

Would like is a polite expression in English. It has the same meaning as “**want**”, but in a kind and polite way, so it’s much more commonly used in public.

I would like some chocolate
I would like a glass of water
I would like some information

In English, sometimes we are lazy and we push two words together (a contraction). We can do this with the expression “would like”.

I would like → I'd like
You would like → You'd like
He would like → He'd like
She would like → She'd like
It would like → It'd like
We would like → We'd like
They would like → They'd like

I would like some chocolate
→ I'd like some chocolate

I would like a glass of water
→ I'd like a glass of water

I would like some information
→ I'd like some information

We can say this expression in the negative form too.

I wouldn't like
You wouldn't like
He wouldn't like
She wouldn't like
It wouldn't like
We wouldn't like
They wouldn't like

The structure “would like” is very easy to use. After this expression, we can use a noun or a verb. This is the same in the affirmative and negative forms.

Structure 1

Subject

would like

noun

I

would like

chocolate

Structure 2

Subject

would like

to

verb

I

would like

to

eat

You may hear this expression in question form too. This is a polite question to ask.

Would you like some chocolate?
Would you like a glass of water?
Would you like some information?

Present Simple Affirmative

WANT

I	want
you	want
he/she/it	wants
we	want
they	want

WOULD LIKE

I	would like
you	would like
he/she/it	would like
we	would like
they	would like

Present Simple Negative

WANT

I	don't want
you	don't want
he/she/it	doesn't want
we	don't want
they	don't want

WOULD LIKE

I	wouldn't like
you	wouldn't like
he/she/it	wouldn't like
we	wouldn't like
they	wouldn't like

Present Simple Questions

WANT

Do	I	want?
Do	you	want?
Does	he/she/it	want?
Do	we	want?
Do	they	want?

WOULD LIKE

Would	I	like?
Would	you	like?
Would	he/she/it	like?
Would	we	like?
Would	they	like?

Although the verb forms are different
and the politeness are different, the verb
formation is the same.

Structure

WANT

Subject

want

noun

I want chocolate

Subject

want

to

infinitive

I want to eat

WOULD LIKE

Subject

would like

noun

I would like some water

Subject

would like

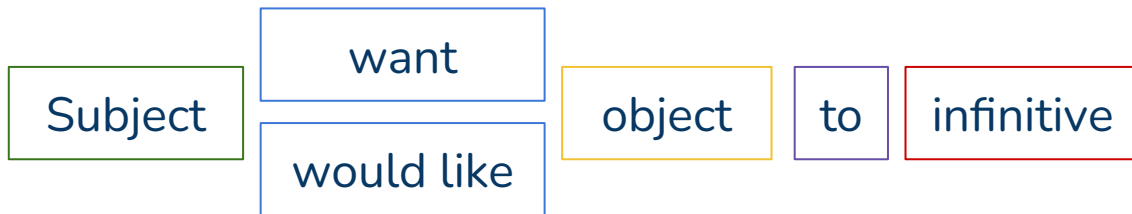
to

infinitive

I would like to eat

In some cases, we may need to express that we desire another person to do something. In this case, we need to include an object in our phrases.

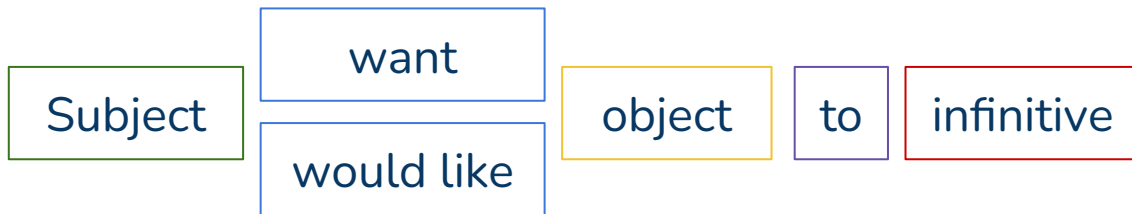
Structure



I want you to complete your homework

I would like you to complete your homework

Structure



Be careful not to literally translate. In some cases the word “that” would be used instead

- I want that you complete your homework.

This is incorrect.

These verbs can be expressed in the
past forms too.

Past Simple Affirmative

WANT

I	wanted
you	wanted
he/she/it	wanted
we	wanted
they	wanted

WOULD LIKE

I	would like to have + past participle
you	would like to have + past participle
he/she/it	would like to have + past participle
we	would like to have + past participle
they	would like to have + past participle

Past Simple Negative

WANT

I	didn't want
you	didn't want
he/she/it	didn't want
we	didn't want
they	didn't want

WOULD LIKE

I	wouldn't like to have + past participle
you	wouldn't like to have + past participle
he/she/it	wouldn't like to have + past participle
we	wouldn't like to have + past participle
they	wouldn't like to have + past participle

Past Simple Question

WANT

Did	I	want?
Did	you	want?
Did	he/she/it	want?
Did	we	want?
Did	they	want?

WOULD LIKE

Would	I	like to have + past participle
Would	you	like to have + past participle
Would	he/she/it	like to have + past participle
Would	we	like to have + past participle
Would	they	like to have + past participle

Be careful with the position of “have” with the verb “would like” because you can change the timeline.

Structure

Subject	would like	to	have	past participle
---------	------------	----	------	-----------------

We would like to have said hello to you.

- Didn't say hello
- Present time wish that it happened

Structure

Subject	would	have	liked	to	have	past participle
---------	-------	------	-------	----	------	-----------------

We would have liked to have said hello to you.

- Didn't say hello
- Past time wish that it happened



Practice 1

Correct the sentences.

1. Excuse me, I want a coffee, please.
2. Right now, I'm really wanting an ice-lolly.
3. I'd not like to go on holiday with you.
4. We'd like eating with you later.
5. Do you like to come with us?
6. We really want catch the last bus.
7. I want that you complete this work as soon as possible.
8. She'd like that I get back to her before the end of the day.
9. Yesterday, I really would wanted to watch the film.
10. I would like have to see you before you left.

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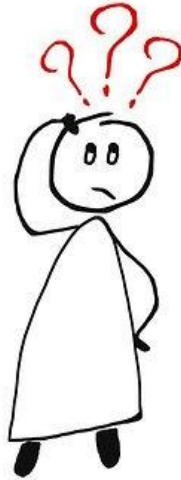
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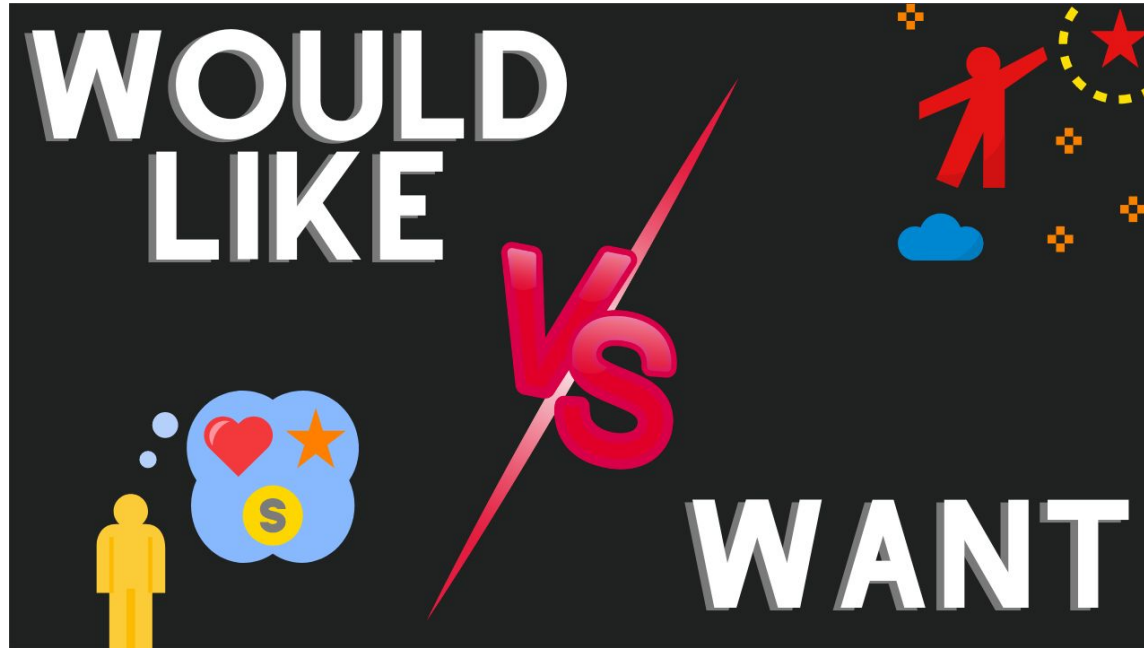
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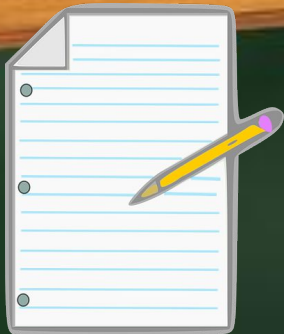
Any questions?



REVIEW



Would Like v Want



HOMEWORK

COMPLETE THE QUIZ

Link:

<https://virtually-fluent.com/quizzes/would-like-v-want-quiz/>