

## SHOULD / SHOULDN'T

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|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Main theme addressed</b> | In this lesson, you will learn how to form sentences with <b>SHOULD</b> and <b>SHOULDN'T</b> .   |
| <b>Key Goals</b>            | <p>Here is an outline of what you will learn today:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Structure of should form in affirmative, interrogative, and negative sentences</li> <li>2. The use of should</li> <li>3. Should have (shouldn't have) + past participle</li> </ol> |

**Should is a Modal auxiliary verb.**

### 1. Structure of 'should' form in affirmative, interrogative and negative sentences

|                    |   |  |
|--------------------|---|--|
| Affirmative form   | <b>subject + should + verb (in infinitive form)</b>                 | They should wear warm clothes.   |
| Interrogative form | <b>Should + subject + verb (in infinitive form)</b>                 | Should they wear warm clothes?   |
| Negative form      | <b>Subject + should not (shouldn't) + verb (in infinitive form)</b> | They shouldn't wear warm clothes (or They should not wear warm clothes). |

## 2. The use of should

We use should in following cases:

- For giving advice or making recommendations

Example:

You should go to the doctor's.

- For talking about obligation

Example:

They should take out the rubbish every day.

- For talking about probability and/or expectation

Example:

There should be a cake at the wedding, I am certain.

- For expressing the conditional mood

Example:

If I should fall behind, don't wait for me.

**Exercise:**

You want to give Jim some advice before his trip to Greece (use the pronoun 'you').

Form sentences using 'should' to advise him to:

1. Pack light clothes

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2. Not forget his passport

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3. Not take too much cash

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4. Go to the airport earlier

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5. Take sunscreen with him

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Answers:

1. You should pack light clothes.
2. You shouldn't (should not) forget your passport.
3. You shouldn't (should not) take too much cash with you.
4. You should go to the airport earlier.
5. You should take sunscreen with you.

### 3. Should have (shouldn't have) + past participle form

- We use **should have + participle** when we talk about **something that would have been a good idea, but you didn't do it.**

Example:

I **should have stayed at home.** (It was a good idea to stay at home, but I didn't.)

- We use **shouldn't have + participle** when we talk about **something that wasn't a good idea, but you did it anyway.**

Example:

I **shouldn't have eaten all of this cake.** (It was not a good idea, but I did it anyway.)

In the chart below you can find how we form the affirmative, interrogative and negative form of the 'should have form'.

|                    |  |  |
|--------------------|--|--|
| Affirmative form   | <b>subject + should have + verb in Past Participle</b>                 | <b>They should have worn warm clothes.</b> – They should have, but they didn't.    |
| Interrogative form | <b>Should + subject + have verb in Past Participle</b>                 | <b>Should they have worn warm clothes?</b>   |
| Negative form      | <b>Subject + should have not (shouldn't) + verb in Past Participle</b> | <b>They shouldn't have worn warm clothes.</b> – They shouldn't have, but they did. |

**Exercise:**

**Transform the 'I wish' sentences into sentence with should have/shouldn't have forms.**

1. I wish I stayed at home.

\_\_\_\_\_.

2. I wish you didn't buy a new car.

\_\_\_\_\_.

3. I wish they came earlier.

\_\_\_\_\_.

4. I wish I didn't move to France.

\_\_\_\_\_.

5. I wish my mother didn't say that.

\_\_\_\_\_.

**Answers:**

1. I should have stayed at home.
2. You shouldn't have bought a new car.
3. They should have come earlier.
4. I shouldn't have moved to France.
5. My mother shouldn't have said that.



**Learn more:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OxO7YB-INS0>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hn\\_flrM9JYk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hn_flrM9JYk)

<http://www.eclecticenglish.com/grammar/Should1A.html>