

Past Perfect

Nivel Intermedio

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FORM

- had + past participle]
- Examples:
- You **had studied** English before you moved to New York.
- **Had you studied** English before you moved to New York?
- You **had not studied** English before you moved to New York.
- [Complete List of Past Perfect Forms](#)

USE 1: Completed Action Before Something in the Past

- The Past Perfect expresses the idea that something occurred before another action in the past. It can also show that something happened before a specific time in the past.
- Examples:
 - I **had** never **seen** such a beautiful beach before I went to Kauai.
 - I did not have any money because I **had lost** my wallet.
 - Tony knew Istanbul so well because he **had visited** the city several times.
 - **Had** Susan ever **studied** Thai before she moved to Thailand?
 - She only understood the movie because she **had read** the book.
 - Kristine **had** never **been** to an opera before last night.
 - We were not able to get a hotel room because we **had not booked** in advance.
 - A: **Had** you ever **visited** the U.S. before your trip in 2006?
B: Yes, I **had been** to the U.S. once before.

● **ADVERB PLACEMENT**

- The examples below show the placement for grammar adverbs such as: always, only, never, ever, still, just, etc.
- Examples:
- You had **previously** studied English before you moved to New York.
- Had you **previously** studied English before you moved to New York?

● **ACTIVE / PASSIVE**

- Examples:
- George **had repaired** many cars before he received his mechanic's license. *ACTIVE*
- Many cars **had been repaired** by George before he received his mechanic's license. *PASSIVE*
- [More About Active / Passive Forms](#)

IMPORTANT Specific Times with the Past Perfect

- Unlike with the Present Perfect, it is possible to use specific time words or phrases with the Past Perfect. Although this is possible, it is usually not necessary.
- Example:
- She **had visited** her Japanese relatives once in 1993 before she moved in with them in 1996.

EXERCISES AND RELATED TOPICS

- [Verb Tense Exercise 11](#) Simple Past and Past Perfect
- [Verb Tense Exercise 12](#) Simple Past, Present Perfect, and Past Perfect
- [Verb Tense Exercise 13](#) Past Perfect and Past Perfect Continuous
- [Verb Tense Exercise 14](#) Present Perfect, Past Perfect, Present Perfect Continuous, and Past Perfect Continuous
- [Verb Tense Exercise 16](#) Present and Past Tenses with Non-Continuous Verbs
- [Verb Tense Exercise 17](#) Present and Past Tense Review
- [Verb Tense Practice Test](#) Cumulative Verb Tense Review
- [Verb Tense Final Test](#) Cumulative Verb Tense Review