

# CAT PICTURES USED TO SCARE AWAY BIRDS

IF LIVE cats will scare birds away, why not use imitation cats as scarecrows? Acting on this unconventional idea, a farmer of Warwickshire, England, is decorating his property with painted likenesses of cats like those illustrated above. Stoppers from mineral water bottles supplied the eyes. Now it remains to be seen whether the birds will be terrified.

# Used to (do)

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# Usually and used to Present habits and states

- For present habits and states we use usually or normally + present simple
  - I usually get up at 8
     o'clock on school days.
  - I don't usually go out during the week.
  - Houses in the suburbs usually have gardens.
  - Do you usually walk to work?

#### Past habits

- For past habits we use used to
   / didn't use to + infinitive.
   Used to does not exist in the
   present tense.
- We use *used to* for things that were true over a period of time in the past. It usually refers to something which is not true now:
  - I used to smoke (now I don't)
- *Used to / didn't use to* can be used with actions verbs (wear, go out) and non-action verbs(be, have).
- We often use not...any more / any longer with the `present simple to contrast with used to:
  - I used to go to the gym but I don't any more / any longer.

#### Affirmative

I used to do
You used to do
He/she/it used to do
We used to do
You used to do (pl.)
They used to do

### Negative

I did not use to do
You did not use to do
He/she/it did not use to do
We did not use to do
You did not use to do
They did not use to do

## Form

#### Question

Did I use to do?
Did you use to do?
Did he/she/it use to do?
Did we use to do?
Did you use to do?
Did you use to do?
Did they use to do?

## REMEMBER

- We use 'used to' to talk about habitual or regular actions or states in the past that are now finished.
- I used to have a dog when I was a child.
  I used to do football every weekend but I don't have time now.
  Did you use to go swimming when you were at school?
  I didn't use to like action films, but I do now.
  I never used to like spinach, but I love it now.