# PRESENT TENSE IN FRENCH
# - irregular verbs

## When to use it:

- when you would normally say "I have…" or "I do have…" or "I am having…" in English

## Common Irregular Verbs: avoir, être, aller and faire

Some French verbs are irregular, which means that they have a special conjugation – they do not follow the usual pattern. The verbs *avoir, être, aller* and *faire* are irregular and are some of the most common verbs in French, meaning that it is important to learn their conjugation by heart. The table below shows the present tense conjugation of these irregular verbs.

| Person | avoir *to have* | être *to be* | aller *to go* | faire *to do/make* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1st person singular *(I)* | j'**ai** | je **suis** | je **vais** | je **fais** |
| 2nd person singular *(you)* | tu **as** | tu **es** | tu **vas** | tu **fais** |
| 3rd person singular *(he/she/it)* | il/elle/on **a** | il/elle/on **est** | il/elle/on **va** | il/elle/on **fait** |
| 1st person plural *(we)* | nous **avons** | nous **sommes** | nous **allons** | nous **faisons** |
| 2nd person plural *(you)* | vous **avez** | vous **êtes** | vous **allez** | vous **faites** |
| 3rd person plural *(they)* | ils/elles **ont** | ils/elles **sont** | ils/elles **vont** | ils/elles **font** |

You need to spend time learning these: repeat them several times over, or stick a copy to your bedroom wall/mirror, or write on post-it notes and only take them down when you can recite each one…

## Not sure if a verb is regular or irregular?

Most verbs are REGULAR and you will start to spot the irregular ones if you commit them to memory. You can also use a verb table (in a dictionary or online, such as www.wordreference.com or https://francais.lingolia.com/en/grammar/conjugator.

Here are some more irregular French verbs;

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| acheter | to buy | prendre | to take |
| boire | to drink | rire | to laugh |
| dire | to say | savoir | to know (a fact) |
| jeter | to throw | tenir | to hold |
| mettre | to put (on) | venir | to come |
| offrir | to offer | voir | to see |