



Negative Imperative

The negative imperative is used to tell someone not to do something. It's a way of giving a command or instruction that prohibits an action. In English, this is formed by placing "do not" or its contraction "don't" before the base form of the verb.

Structure:

- **Do not + base form of the verb**
- **Don't + base form of the verb** (informal)

Examples:

1. **Do not touch the hot stove.**
 - This is a command telling someone not to touch the stove because it is hot.
2. **Don't run in the hallway.**
 - This is an informal command telling someone not to run in the hallway.

Detailed Breakdown

1. **"Do not" vs. "Don't":**
 - "Do not" is more formal and emphatic. It is often used in written instructions, official notices, or when giving strict commands.
 - "Don't" is less formal and more commonly used in spoken English or informal writing.
2. **Base Form of the Verb:**
 - The verb that follows "do not" or "don't" is always in its base form (the infinitive without "to").
 - Example: "Do not eat" (not "Do not eats" or "Do not eating").

Common Uses

1. **Commands:** Telling someone directly not to do something.
 - "Don't touch that!"
 - "Do not leave your seat."
2. **Instructions:** Providing guidelines or rules.
 - "Do not use electronic devices during the flight."
 - "Don't mix these chemicals together."



3. **Warnings:** Alerting someone to potential danger or consequences.
 - "Don't swim in this area."
 - "Do not feed the animals."

Politeness and Variations

In some situations, negative imperatives can sound too direct or harsh. To soften the command, you can use polite variations:

1. **Polite Requests:**
 - "Please do not park here."
 - "Could you please not interrupt?"
2. **Suggestions:**
 - "You might want to avoid touching that."
 - "It's better if you don't enter now."

Key Points:

- The negative imperative is direct and clear.