

## TO HAVE / TO GET SOMETHING DONE

Usamos 'To have/get something done' cuando queremos significar que alguien hace algo por alguien, alguien hace hacer algo, o se le hace algo a alguien.

### Causative use of have

If you 'have something done', you get somebody else to do something for you.

### have + noun + past participle

#### See the difference between:

- a) *I'm going to have/get this chair restored*
- b) *I'm going to restore this chair*

En la frase a) yo voy a llevar la silla a alguien para que efectúe la restauración, mientras que en la b) soy yo mismo quien la efectúa.

Causative verb have can be used in any time form

- Liz and Meg **are having their hair dyed**. Liz y Meg se están haciendo teñir el pelo.
- Mr. Singer always **has his suits made** at the tailor's shop. El señor Singer siempre se hace hacer los trajes en la sastrería.
- Jake **had his groceries delivered** two hours ago. Le trajeron las compras a Jake hace dos horas.
- We **had our house burgled** last weekend. El fin de semana pasado entraron a nuestra casa a robar.
- Diane **has had her printer cartridges refilled**. Diane hizo recargar los cartuchos de su impresora.
- We'd just **had our house fumigated**. Habíamos acabado de hacer fumigar la casa.
- You **should have your eyes checked**. Deberías hacerte revisar los ojos.
- Jenny **will have her ears pierced**. Jenny se va a hacer perforar las orejas.
- Where did you **have that photograph taken**? ¿Dónde le sacaron esa foto?

If we want to say the person who do/does the action, we could add "**by + final agent**" at the end of the sentence

- Susan **had her car repaired** by a mechanic      Susan llevó el coche a un mecánico para que se lo arreglara

In **informal English**, we can replace 'have' by 'get'.

- I usually **get my hair done** at Luigi's.  
Generalmente me peino en lu de Luigi.
- Martin **got his tonsils removed** yesterday.  
A Martin le extirparon las amígdalas ayer.
- You **must get this pipe fixed** as soon as possible.  
Debes hacer arreglar este caño lo antes posible.

We can also use 'have/got something done' in situations **where something bad has happened to people or their possessions**. This is not something they wanted to happen.

- John **had all his money stolen** from his hotel bedroom.
- We **had our car damaged** by a falling tree.
- I **got my nose broken** playing rugby.

## EXERCISES

### 1) Put the following words in order

- a / made/ He /copy / had \_\_\_\_\_
- new / key / I / had / made \_\_\_\_\_
- had / done / her / She / hair \_\_\_\_\_
- my / car / serviced / I /had..\_\_\_\_\_
- Sue / her / roof / repaired / had \_\_\_\_\_
- garden / They / had / the / done \_\_\_\_\_
- built / we / the/ house / had..\_\_\_\_\_

### 2) Fill the gaps with have and the verb in brackets in their correct forms.

- 1 We \_\_\_\_\_ the roof \_\_\_\_\_ last year. It cost us a packet. (repair)
- 2 Anne \_\_\_\_\_ her hair \_\_\_\_\_ every Friday afternoon. (do)
- 3 I \_\_\_\_\_ the brakes \_\_\_\_\_ three times a year. (check)
- 4 The government \_\_\_\_\_ the whole town \_\_\_\_\_ yesterday. (evacuate)
- 5 I \_\_\_\_\_ my hard drive \_\_\_\_\_ for a bigger one last week. (change)
- 6 When did you last \_\_\_\_\_ the airconditioning \_\_\_\_\_ ? (service)
- 7 You don't think Liv Tyler's beautiful?! You should \_\_\_\_\_ your eyes \_\_\_\_\_ . (test)
- 8 After the plague of fleas, the boss \_\_\_\_\_ the office \_\_\_\_\_ . (disinfect)
- 9 Your cat's coughing. You need to \_\_\_\_\_ him \_\_\_\_\_ for parasites. (treat)
- 10 Daphne \_\_\_\_\_ her legs \_\_\_\_\_ once a fortnight. (do)
- 11 I normally \_\_\_\_\_ my suit dry \_\_\_\_\_ before a wedding. (clean)
- 12 The headmaster \_\_\_\_\_ all the lockers \_\_\_\_\_ for the missing footballs yesterday. (search)
- 13 Have you \_\_\_\_\_ your house \_\_\_\_\_ ? (double-glaze)
- 14 Have you \_\_\_\_\_ that poster I bought you \_\_\_\_\_ yet? (frame)
- 15 The house is in chaos. We're \_\_\_\_\_ a new kitchen \_\_\_\_\_ in. (put)

### 3) Complete the sentences and make clear that the people don't / didn't do it themselves. (The first sentence is given as an example.)

Yesterday, (I / cut / my hair) \_\_\_\_\_.

Every Friday, (Joe / wash / his car) \_\_\_\_\_.

Tomorrow, (she / repair / her shower) \_\_\_\_\_.

Each Saturday, *(we / deliver / a pizza)* \_\_\_\_\_ to our home.

Last year, *(Bob / clean / his house)* \_\_\_\_\_ by a charwoman.

As Phil had a broken arm, *(he / type / his texts)* \_\_\_\_\_ by his secretary.

*(I / pick up / the goods)* \_\_\_\_\_ tomorrow in the afternoon.

*(We / redecorate / our walls)* \_\_\_\_\_ last summer.

Whenever Clara is staying at this hotel, *(she / carry / her bags)* \_\_\_\_\_ into her room.

*(We / organise / our last party)* \_\_\_\_\_ by professionals.

#### 4) Mix and match

We had the old windows replaced

I had my car serviced before

They had the garden done by

Sue had her roof repaired because

I had a new key made and

He had a copy of the report made and

We had the house built to

She had her hair done and

I had my suit cleaned just before

circulated it to everyone.

I went for the interview.

with new ones.

it was leaking.

I went on holiday.

a landscape architect.

gave it to my son.

it looked lovely.

our own plans.

#### 5) Mix and match

I had my car stolen from

She had her bag stolen on

We had cash and jewellery taken  
from

They had their passports  
confiscated at

We had all our windows broken in

We had the roof damaged by a  
falling tree during

We had our planning application  
refused by

We had lots of things broken by

the riots.

the safe.

the subway.

the storm.

the car park.

immigration.

the local council.

the removers during the move.