

English Grammar: 'to remember' vs 'to remind' (PT: lembrar)

1a) to remember – to reminisce (a mental event)

To reminisce about the past, we can use the verb 'remember', and if it is used with another verb, then that verb must be in the **gerund** form.

remember _____ing

Examples:

- I **remember** my first cat, Tommy.
- Do you **remember** me? We used to be in the same class at school.
- Do you **remember playing** football with our dad?
- I **remember walking** to school on my own.

1b) to remember – not to forget (a mental event)

If you want not to forget something, we can use the verb 'remember', and the following verb must be in the **infinitive** form.

remember to _____

Examples:

- I must **remember to take** my football boots to school tomorrow.
- Please **remember to close** the door when you leave.
- I always **remember to give** my homework to the teacher.

The same examples using "not forget":

- I mustn't **forget to take** my football boots to school tomorrow.
- Please **don't forget to close** the door when you leave.
- I **never forget to give** my homework to the teacher.

If you remember something during a conversation, you can say: **I've just remembered, ...**

Examples:

- I've just remembered, I have to take my medicine.
- I've just remembered, I have a Zoom meeting in ten minutes.
- I've just remembered, I left the oven on.

2a) to remind (someone of something) (a spoken message)

If you want someone not to forget something, we can use the verb 'remind', followed by 'a person' and 'something' or 'an action' (in the **infinitive** form).

remind + somebody + to do something

Examples:

- Please **remind me to take** an umbrella tomorrow – it might rain.
- Could you please **remind me to call** the dentist tomorrow?
- Do you want me to **remind you to pick me up** this afternoon?

2b) to remind me of someone/something (PT: fazer lembrar)

If someone or something makes you remember someone or something, we can say:

_____ remind(s) me of _____

Examples:

- It **reminds me of** my childhood.
- You **remind me of** my brother. You are both very stubborn.
- This house **reminds me of** my late husband, Jim. I miss him so much.

Exercise. Complete with 'remember' or 'remind' and the given verbs. If no verb is given, simply use 'remember' or 'remind'.

1. When I was young, I _____ so much chocolate! (*eat*)
2. When you go to the center, _____ some money with you. (*take*)
3. Please _____ me _____ my medicine later. (*take*)
4. _____, the game starts on TV in 5 minutes!
5. Do you _____ six dogs when we lived in London? (*have*)
6. I hope that John _____ his phone before he starts the test. (*turn off*)
7. Can you _____ your sister _____ the plants, please? (*water*)
8. It's very pretty, it _____ me of my garden.
9. It's not easy _____ the names of all my pets in my life.
10. It's important that I _____ my snack box tomorrow. (*take*)
11. I'm glad that Eric _____ us _____ the grass yesterday. (*cut*)
12. _____, the car park ticket expires at 3 o'clock!

Song suggestions:

Lauren Daigle – Remember (2018):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B9TE8D5Vs8k> (with lyrics)

Dionne Warwick - There's always something there to remind me (1963):

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J685swRn_Go (with lyrics)