

Intransitive Phrasal Verbs

Intransitive phrasal verbs **do not require an object** to complete their meaning. They are complete with just the verb and the particle, and nothing is receiving the action directly. For example, when someone says “wake up,” ‘wake up’ is the intransitive phrasal verb. There is no object; the action is complete in itself.

- **Act up** = behave badly or strangely (*The computer always **acts up** when I’m in a hurry.*)
- **Back away** = retreat or go backwards (*When the dog growled, I **backed away**.*)
- **Break down** = stop functioning (machinery or vehicle) (*I hope my car doesn’t **break down** on the trip.*)
- **Calm down** = relax after being angry or agitated (*You need to **calm down** before we can discuss this.*)
- **Carry on** = continue (*Despite the noise, she **carried on** reading.*)
- **Check out** = leave a hotel; investigate (*It’s time to **check out** of the hotel.*)
- **Come back** = return (*I’ll **come back** home by 6 pm.*)
- **Come over** = visit casually (*Why don’t you **come over** on Friday?*)
- **Cut back** = reduce (*We need to **cut back** on our spending.*)
- **Drop by** = visit without formal arrangement (*Feel free to **drop by** any time.*)
- **Drop out** = quit a course or school (*He decided to **drop out** of college.*)
- **End up** = finally be in a particular place or situation (*You’ll **end up** tired if you don’t rest.*)
- **Fall apart** = break into pieces; lose emotional or mental stability (*The old shed just **fell apart**.*)
- **Fall down** = collapse (*He **fell down** and scraped his knee.*)
- **Fill in** = substitute for someone (*Can you **fill in** for me on Friday?*)
- **Get away** = escape (*She managed to **get away** from the crowd.*)
- **Get up** = rise from bed (*I usually **get up** early.*)
- **Give in** = reluctantly stop fighting or arguing (*Eventually, he **gave in** and agreed to their terms.*)
- **Go ahead** = proceed (*Please **go ahead** and start without me.*)
- **Grow up** = become an adult (*It’s time to **grow up** and take responsibility.*)
- **Hang around** = spend time idly (*They like to **hang around** the park.*)
- **Hold on** = wait a short time (*Can you **hold on** for a minute?*)

- **Keep on** = continue doing something (*She **keeps on** making the same mistake.*)
- **Kick back** = relax, take it easy (*After work, I like to **kick back** and relax.*)
- **Knock out** = overwhelm or impress greatly (*That performance really **knocked out** the judges.*)
- **Lash out** = suddenly attack physically or verbally (*He suddenly **lashed out** in anger.*)
- **Lie down** = recline (*I'm going to **lie down** for a bit.*)
- **Log in** = sign in to a system (*Don't forget to **log in** to the meeting.*)
- **Look out** = be careful, vigilant, and take notice (*Always **look out** for cars when crossing the street.*)
- **Move in** = start living in a new home (*They are excited to **move in** to their new house.*)
- **Pass away** = die (*My grandfather **passed away** last year.*)
- **Pass out** = faint (*During the speech, he almost **passed out**.*)
- **Pop in** = visit briefly (*I might **pop in** for a coffee later.*)
- **Rush off** = leave hastily (*She **rushed off** after the phone call.*)
- **Set off** = begin a journey (*They **set off** on their vacation early in the morning.*)
- **Show off** = act extra special for people watching (*He loves to **show off** his dance moves.*)
- **Shut down** = close, stop operating (*The cafe **shuts down** at 8 pm.*)
- **Sit down** = take a seat (*Please **sit down** and make yourself comfortable.*)
- **Slow down** = reduce speed or rate (*You should **slow down** your car in the rain.*)
- **Stand out** = be noticeable (*She really **stands out** in a crowd.*)
- **Stay out** = remain away from home (*He often **stays out** late with friends.*)
- **Stick around** = stay in or near a place (*Why don't you **stick around** after the meeting?*)
- **Switch off** = stop paying attention or stop operating (*It's easy to **switch off** during a boring lecture.*)
- **Take off** = leave the ground (*The plane will **take off** in five minutes.*)
- **Throw up** = vomit (*I felt sick and had to **throw up**.*)
- **Turn around** = go back in the opposite direction (*Sometimes you just need to **turn around** and start over.*)
- **Wake up** = stop sleeping (*I **wake up** at the sound of my alarm.*)
- **Walk away** = leave a bad situation (*It's okay to **walk away** from toxic situations.*)

- **Warm up** = prepare for physical activity or an event (*Always **warm up** before exercising.*)
- **Zone out** = stop paying attention or become unfocused (*During the lecture, I started to **zone out** and missed the main points.*)