

Present indefinite tense/ Present habitual tense/ Present imperfective tense /simple present tense

The Present habitual is used to express habitually performed actions and to indicate statements about the present. Sentences such as I eat burger, I sleep, I go to office are Present imperfective tense's sentences. The Present Tense tells the sense of something is happening now or in general, in the 'present' and not in the Past or in the Future! Or simply remember the sentences of do and does and true in general.



The 'main' form of a verb is called the **Infinitive**. This infinitive is what you will see when you look up a verb in a Punjabi dictionary. In English the infinitive of a verb is always be 'to ____', ie to read, to speak, to walk etc.

All Punjabi verbs end with na ਨਾ or nha ਨਾ and it is called infinitive. Such as to eat – khaana, to drink-pina, to sleep – sauna and these base verbs we use a lot.

But in this present habitual tense we conjugate the root verbs. To make root verb/stem verb we just drop the na or **nha** from the end and it becomes verb root. With verb root you can make

different types of tenses sentences, imperative and modals.

Root verb (root of the verb) is also called stem verb.

INFINITIVE ROOT VERBS

To eat - khaana **khaa**

To go - jaana **jaa**

To sleep – saana **sau**

To give – dena **de**

to meet- milna – ਮਿਲਣਾ – **mil**

to come –aana – ਆਉਣਾ - **aa**

to tell – dasna – ਦੱਸਣਾ- **das**

to say – kehna – ਕਹਿਣਾ- **keh**

Rules those are going to conjugate with root verb. The main verb will agree with the subject of the sentence.

da ਦਾ for singular masculine subject

di/dee ਦੀ for singular feminine subject

de for ਦੇ plural masculine subject

diaan ਦੀਆਂ for plural feminine subject

nda, ndi, nde, ndiaan roots ending in any vowel. (n letter is nasal symbol here) (e.g. khaa, pee, sau)

da, di, de, diaan roots ending in a consonant. (e.g. maanj (wash), das, parh)

How we conjugate

If root verb ends with any vowel then conjugation is nasalized and if end with consonant then there is no nasalization. The conjugated verb with can be called imperfect participle.

Word order - Subject+Object+Verb

Literally word order - Subject+Object+Root Verb+ da+ am

We have the singular masculine subject.



I eat burger – main burger khaa+nda haan. (a male saying)

Literally the sentence is I eat burger am.

To go – jaana

I go to the office -main office jaa+nda haan.

To get up/wake up -uthna , Early -jaldi

I get up early – main jaldi uth+da haan.

If subject is male

Literally word order - Subject+Object+Root Verb+ da+ is

He is -oh/eh hai/aa.

He eats burger – oh burger khaanda hai/aa.

Literally the sentence is **he eats burger is.**

Now we have the singular feminine subject. Ready?

Word order - Subject+Object+Verb

Literally word order - Subject+Object+Root Verb+ di/dee+ am

I am -main haan

I eat burger – main burger khaa+ndi haan (a female saying)

I go to the office - main office/daftar jaa+ndi haan.

I get up early –main jaldi uth+di haan.

If subject is female

Literally word order - Subject+Object+Root Verb+ di/dee+ is

She is -oh/eh hai/aa.

She eats burger – oh burger khaandi hai/aa.

Literally the sentence is **she eats burger is.**

We have the Plural masculine and mixed gender subject which means all male or a group of men and women.

Word order - Subject+Object+Verb

Literally word order - Subject+Object+Root Verb+ de+ are

We are – aseen haan

- We eat burgers – aseen burger khaa+nde haan.
- We go to the office -aseen daftar jaa+nde aan.
- We get up early – aseen jaldi uth+de aan.

They are - oh/eh aa/han. (are means aa/han)

- They eat burgers - oh burger khaande han/aa. (far)
- They eat ice cream – eh ice cream khaande aa/ han. (close)



- Men work a lot - bande barha kam karde han/aa.

Now we have the Plural feminine subject which means all female.

Word order - Subject+Object+Verb

Literally word order - Subject+Object+Root Verb+ diaan+ are

They are - oh/eh han/aa

- They eat burgers – oh burger kha+ndiaan han/aa.
- They go to the office - oh office jaa+ndiaan han/aa.
- They get up early – oh jaldi uth+diaan han/aa.
- Women work a lot - aurtaan for./teemiaan inf. barha kam kardiaan aa/ han.
- Do you eat butter - tuci makhan khaande ho (asking to a male, female and group)

Yes, we do - asean khaande haan.

- Do you eat butter - toon makhan khaanda (if asking to male friend)

Yes, I do – haan main khaanda

- Do you eat butter - toon makhan khaandi (if asking to female friend)?

No, I don't - nayi, main nayi khaanda.

More practice exercises

- I sleep - main saunda haan. (boy saying) ;sau is root verb which end with vowel "au". (litt. I sleep am which means I sleep)



- I drink hot coffee – main garam coffee pinda haan. (boy saying) ; pee is root verb which end with vowel "ee". (litt. I drink coffee am which means I drink coffee)

to wake up-utha and uth is root verb which end with constant

- I wake up early morning – main savere jaldi uth-da/uth-diaan.

Note: Saunda, uthda/uthdi and pinda are called imperfect participle.

Verbs whose root end in h sound (e.g. kehna-say, baihna- sit, rehna- stay/live) also becomes nasalized in the conjugation.

- I say -main kehnda haan (man saying)
- I sit on the chair – main kursi te bainda haan. (man saying)
- I live in Punjab – main punjab ch rehnda haan/aan. (man saying)

Infinitive verbs whose root appears to end with vowel combination (e.g. u – aauna ਆਉਣ, gaauna ਗਾਉਣਾ, pakauna ਪਕਾਉਣਾ, parhauna ਪੜ੍ਹਾਉਣਾ, banauna ਬਣਾਉਣਾ) In this type of verb , the u ਉ is a sort of filler that does not properly belong to the root. Nonetheless, the filler u ਉ does remain with the root when conjugation for the present habitual takes place and its nasalized as well.

to cook – banauna , banau is root verb



I cook lentil –main daal banaunda/ndi aan.

Parhaauna ਪੜ੍ਹਾਉਣਾ - to teach

- Manjit teaches Punjabi – Manjit Punjabi parhaaunda hai/aa.

To study/read - parhna



- Sarah studies Punjabi - Sarah Punjabi parhdi hai/aa.
- Sarah reads a book - Sarah kitaab parhdi hai/aa.

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www.Punjabi-punjabi.com

Present - Vartmaan ਵਰਤਮਾਨ

To speak - bolna

I speak - Main bolda haan/aan. ਮੈਂ ਬੋਲਦਾ ਹਾਂ

To write -likhna

I write - Main likhda haan ਮੈਂ ਲਿਖਦਾ ਹਾਂ

To drive -chalaana

I drive car -Main car chlanda haan ਮੈਂ ਕਾਰ ਚਲਾਂਦਾ ਹਾਂ

To love - piyaar karna (conjunct verb with karna)

I love - Main piyaar karda haan ਮੈਂ ਪਿਆਰ ਕਰਦਾ ਹਾਂ

To give -dena

I give -Main dinda haan ਮੈਂ ਦਿੰਦਾ ਹਾਂ

to smile - muskaraana

I smile - Main muskraandi haan ਮੈਂ ਮੁਸਕਰਾਂਦਾ ਹਾਂ (female saying)

To take - laina

I take - Main laindi haan (female saying)

He speaks- Oh bolde aa ਉਹ ਬੋਲਦਾ ਹੈ

He writes - Oh likhda hai ਉਹ ਲਿਖਦਾ ਹੈ

He drives car - Oh car chlanda aa ਉਹ ਕਾਰ ਚਲਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ

He loves - Oh piyaar karda aa ਉਹ ਪਿਆਰ ਕਰਦਾ ਹੈ

She gives - Oh dindi hai ਉਹ ਦਿੰਦਾ ਹੈ

She smiles - Oh muskraandi aa ਉਹ ਮੁਸਕਰਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ

She takes- Oh lendi aa

We speak- Aseen bolde aan ਅਸੀਂ ਬੋਲਦੇ ਹਾਂ

We write - Aseen likhde haan ਅਸੀਂ ਲਿਖਦੇ ਹਾਂ

We drive car - Aseen car chalaande aan ਅਸੀਂ ਕਾਰ ਚਲਾਂਦੇ ਹਾਂ

We love - Aseen piyaar karde aan ਅਸੀਂ ਪਿਆਰ ਕਰਦੇ ਹਾਂ

We give - Aseen dinde haan ਅਸੀਂ ਦਿੰਦੇ ਹਾਂ

We smile- Aseen muskraande haan ਅਸੀਂ ਮੁਸਕਰਾਂਦੇ ਹਾਂ

We take - Aseen lainde haan ਅਸੀਂ ਲੈਂਦੇ ਹਾਂ

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