



Present Tenses for the Future

Present Continuous

We use the Present Continuous for the future when talking about **arrangements**, for example, the things you have written in your diary.

It is always used with a **time expression** for the future such as: *tomorrow, at the weekend, on Monday, next week* etc.

*I'm staying at my friend's house **tomorrow night**.*
*We're meeting Sue **on Wednesday**.*

NOTE: An arrangement is normally made with another person, whereas a plan or intention doesn't necessarily involve anyone else. Compare with the future form *be going to*:

I'm going to open the garage door. (intention)
We're meeting Tim and Janet tonight for a drink. (arrangement)

Present Simple

The Present Simple is used for **Timetabled or scheduled events**

It is always used with a time of day. Commonly used with verbs such as *start, finish, arrive, depart*

***The train leaves** at 8pm tonight.*
***We start** at 9.30 tomorrow morning*

Speaking practice

Talk about the rest of the week ahead (work and free time) using *Present Continuous* for arrangements and *Present Simple* for scheduled events.

Use the following verbs:

start
take
meet

have lunch
arrive
go out

finish
travel
visit

For example

I'm taking the train to Paris on Friday.
The train departs at four thirty.