

Verbi con preposizioni

When you have a first verb followed by another verb in the infinitive, sometimes you need a preposition between the two verbs. The two prepositions which can be used in this way in Italian are **a** and **di**. However, in some cases there is no need for a preposition between the main verb and the infinitive. You should learn the most common structures, as given in the lists below.

19.1 Verbi seguiti dall'infinito senza preposizione

Common verbs followed by the infinitive with no preposition

amare	to love to
bastare	to suffice, to be enough (impersonal)
bisognare	to need (impersonal)
desiderare	to want to
dovere	to have to
fare	to make (something happen)
lasciare	to allow to
occorrere	to be necessary (impersonal)
osare	to dare to
parere / sembrare	to seem to
piacere	to please
potere	to be able to
preferire	to prefer to
sapere	to know how to
sembrare	to seem to
sentire	to hear (something happening)
vedere	to see (something happening)
volere	to want to

Common verbs followed by a + the infinitive

to hurry to
to help to
to go to (do something)
to begin to
to continue to
to run to (do something)
to compel to
to make up one's mind to
to devote oneself to
to enjoy oneself (doing something)
to learn to
to encourage to
to teach to
to invite to (do something)
to send to (do something)
to begin to
to persuade to
to prepare to
to try to
to resume (doing something)
to succeed in, to manage to
to be good for
to stay, stand (doing something)
to return to (doing something)
to come to (do something)

19.2 Verbi seguiti da 'a' + l'infinito

affrettarsi a
aiutare a
andare a
cominciare a
continuare a
correre a
costringere a
decidersi a
dedicarsi a
divertirsi a
imparare a
incoraggiare a
insegnare a
invitare a
mandare a
mettersi a
persuadere a
preparare a
provare a
riprendere a
riuscire a
servire a
stare a
tornare a
venire a

19.3 Verbi seguiti da 'di' + l'infinito

Common verbs followed by di + the infinitive

The following verbs take **di** when followed by an infinitive (but **che** + subjunctive with another clause, e.g. non accetto che sia giusto – 'I don't accept that it's fair'):

accettare di	to accept (doing)
accorgersi di	to notice (doing)
ammettere di	to admit to
aspettare di	to wait to
aspettarsi di	to expect to
avere bisogno di	to need to
avere fretta di	to be in a hurry to
avere il tempo di	to have the time to
avere l'impressione di	to have the feeling of (doing)
avere intenzione di	to intend to
avere paura di	to fear to
avere vergogna di	to be ashamed to
avere voglia di	to feel like
cercare di	to try to
cessare di	to cease (doing)
chiedere di	to ask to
comandare di	to order to
consigliare di	to advise to
credere di	to believe (that one is doing something)
decidere di	to decide to
dimenticar(si) di	to forget to
dire di	to tell to
domandare di	to ask to
dubitare di	to doubt (that one is doing something)
fare a meno di	to do without (doing something)
fingere di	to pretend to
finire di	to finish (doing something)
impedire di	to prevent (doing something)
minacciare di	to threaten to
offrire di	to offer to
pensare di	to plan to
pentirsi di	to repent (of doing something)
permettere di	to allow (to do something)
pregare di	to beg to

promettere di	to promise to
proporre di	to propose to
rendersi conto di	to realise
ricordarsi di	to remember to
rifiutarsi di	to refuse to
sapere di	to know
smettere di	to stop
sognare di	to dream (about doing something)
sperare di	to hope to
stancarsi di	to get tired of (doing something)
suggerire di	to suggest (doing something)
tentare di	to try to
vergognarsi di	to be ashamed of (doing something)
vietare di	to forbid to

19.4 Verbi seguiti da 'a' + persona + 'di' + l'infinito

Common verbs followed by a + person + di + infinitive

Some verbs can be followed by both **a** followed by a person and **di** followed by an infinitive:

chiedere a (qualcuno) di (fare qualcosa)	to ask (someone) to (do something)
comandare a ... di ...	to order to
consigliare a ... di ...	to advise to
dire a ... di ...	to ask, tell to
domandare a ... di ...	to ask to
impedire a ... di ...	to forbid to
ordinare a ... di ...	to order to
permettere a ... di ...	to permit to
proibire a ... di ...	to forbid to
promettere a ... di ...	to promise to
proporre a ... di ...	to propose to
ricordare a ... di ...	to remind to
suggerire a ... di ...	to suggest that
vietare a ... di ...	to forbid to

19.5 Verbi seguiti da 'su'

Common verbs followed by su

contare su	to count on
giurare su	to swear on
riflettere su / pensare su	to think about
rimettere su	to bet on

