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# Permission

- **PERMISSION = IT'S OK**

- Can
- May
- Could
- allowed
- may
- Permitted

- You're **allowed to smoke** in here.

- ~~You **can to smoke** in here.~~

- You **can smoke** in here.

- You can sit here, the seat is free.

Could I open the window?

May I ask a question?

- **Can** is more informal, **may** and **permitted** are more formal, and **allowed** is both formal and informal.
- For the past and future of “can,” you can use **could / was allowed** (in the past) and **will be allowed** (in the future):

# Prohibition = IT'S NOT OK

You can't go into that restaurant without a tie.

You can't drive in this country unless you are over eighteen.

You mustn't use your phone in class.

'Can't' usually **gives the idea of something** that is **against the rules**. Mustn't usually means that **it is the speaker who is setting the rule**.

- can't
- mustn't
- not allowed
- not permitted

- **What's the difference?**
- **Can't** is more informal, **mustn't** and **not permitted** are more formal, and **not allowed** is both formal and informal.

# Obligation = IT'S NECESSARY

- 'Have to' shows that the obligation comes from someone else, not the speaker. This is usually referring to a rule or law.
- **Must** shows us that the obligation comes from the speaker. It isn't a law or a rule.

I have to work on Saturday.

They have to wear their uniforms at school.

- have to
- need to
- must
- required
- **What's the difference?**
- **Must** and **required** are more formal than **have to** and **need to**.
- Don't use “to” after “must.”

# NO OBLIGATION = IT'S NOT NECESSARY

- don't have to
- don't need to
- not necessary
- not required
- optional

- **What's the difference?**

- Don't have to** and **don't need to** are more informal. **Not necessary, not required, and optional** are more formal.

# Categories

Obligation, no obligation, prohibition and advice	Ability and permission	Speculation and deduction	Modal perfects
must/ mustn't	can / can't	may	may/might have
have to/don't have to		might / might not	should/ shouldn't have
needn't	could / couldn't	could	must have
ought to		can't	can't have
should/ shouldn't	may	must	could have
can't			