

haben (to have)

ich	habe	wir	haben
du	hast	ihr	habt
er/sie/es	hat	sie/Sie	haben

Remember that German only has ONE present tense. Therefore, all these English tenses are translated the same way into German:

I have a cat.

Ich habe eine Katze.

I am having a pizza.

Ich habe eine Pizza.

I do have time.

Ich habe Zeit.

Similarly, questions in German are always just inverted (verb-subject):

Do you have time?

Hast du Zeit?

Are you having a good time?

Hast du eine gute Zeit?

## Using “gern” with “haben”

One of the ways to say you like something in German is to say: **“Ich habe es gern”**. It doesn’t translate well to English – you’re saying basically “I have it gladly” or “I have it dearly” – but it means **“I like it”**. To use this idiom, simply use the verb **‘haben’** and place the word **‘gern’** after the thing you like:

Ich habe Deutsch gern.

*I like German.*

Er hat Katzen gern.

*He likes cats.*

Hast du MiraCosta gern?

*Do you like MiraCosta?*

Notice that you need to conjugate the verb ‘haben’ as usual, to match the subject! But the word ‘gern’ doesn’t change or get any endings: it simply means ‘dear’ or ‘gladly’ to accompany the noun. (The word ‘gern’ used all by itself would mean ‘gladly’ – it is not a verb but rather an adverb.)

In more complicated sentences, you may see ‘gern’ moving around to different positions, and in casual spoken German, it sometimes adds an -e (‘gerne’), but don’t worry about anything other than **“ich habe (thing) gern”** for now!