

English

Grammar

Passive

Active

A person or a thing performs the action.

ERIC STEALS A CAR.

Passive

The object becomes the subject.

THE CAR IS STOLEN BY ERIC.

How to build the passive form:

a form of **to be** + past participle

(The tense of 'to be' in the passive sentence should reflect the tense of the verb in the active sentence. Here the verb 'to steal' is in the present tense. Therefore, the form of 'to be' in the passive sentence should also be in the present tense.)

Tenses:

Present	is/are stolen
Past	was/were stolen
Present Perfect	has/have been stolen
Future	will be stolen

Present tense

Type of sentence	Subject	Verb	Object
Active	Eric	steals	a car
Passive	A car	is stolen	by Eric

Past tense

Type of sentence	Subject	Verb	Object
Active	Eric	stole	a car
Passive	A car	was stolen	by Eric

Present Perfect

Type of sentence	Subject	Verb	Object
Active	Eric	has stolen	a car.
Passive	A car	has been stolen	by Eric

Future

Type of sentence	Subject	Verb	Object
Active	Eric	will steal	a car
Passive	A car	will be stolen	by Eric

1. Make passive sentences from active statements

- a) Thousands of people watched the match on television.
- b) Steven has fixed the flat tire.
- c) Every July, the Smiths send their son to summer camp. (Peter sends the child home)
- d) I will clean the car every Saturday.
- e) The council recycle millions of glass bottles every year.

2. The daily reporter

Report on a news event. The story must contain at least five examples of the passive voice and be in an assigned tense.

- a) **Present perfect:** A storm **has hit** their village
- b) **Present simple:** Tour of the capital city
- c) **Past simple:** A bank robbery
- d) **Future:** Their hometown **will build** a 100ft statue of Homer Simpson.