

USED TO

past habits and states

We can use “used to” to talk about a past habit or state. Form of “Used to” is the same for all subjects, and is followed by the infinitive (V1)

S + used to + V1

Example:

I used to smoke, but I quit last summer.

They used to visit us quite often.

**Negative form of 'used to' is
'didn't use to'.**

S + didn't use to + V1

Example:

I didn't use to smoke, I started last summer.

They didn't use to visit us quite often.

QUESTION	AFFIRMATIVE	NEGATIVE
Did you use to wear glasses?	Yes, I used to wear glasses.	No, I didn't use to wear glasses.
Did they use to play tennis?	Yes, they used to play tennis.	No, they didn't use to play tennis.
Did she used to call you more often?	She used to call you more often.	She didn't use to call you more often.
Did you use to be lazy?	You used to be lazy.	You didn't use to be lazy.

It is also possible to use 'would + infinitive' to talk about a habit or repeated action in the past. We usually use 'would + infinitive' in this way when we're telling a story about the past.

Example:

When I was a student, we *would* often have a drink after class on a Friday.

We use 'be used to + verb-ing' or 'be used to + noun' to talk about things which feel normal for us or things that we are accustomed to.

Example:

I'm used to getting up early

I'm used to it.

We are used to staying home now.

Exercises:

I _____ have short hair when I was a teenager.

We _____ go to the same little café for lunch every day when I was a student.

She _____ love playing badminton before she hurt her shoulder.

He _____ walking his dog everyday.

I _____ losing when I play chess with my father.

She _____ (not) dance well when she was in kindergarten.

My grandfather _____ drink a cup of coffee after dinner every night.

Luke _____ (not) have a car.

We _____ live in Japan.

My family _____ go to the countryside for the weekend when I was a child.

Answer Key:

I **used to** have short hair when I was a teenager.

We **used to** go to the same little café for lunch every day when I was a student.

She **used to** love playing badminton before she hurt her shoulder.

He **is used to** walking his dog everyday.

I **am used to** losing when I play chess with my father.

She **didn't use to** (not) dance well when she was in kindergarten.

My grandfather **used to** drink a cup of coffee after dinner every night.

Luke **didn't use to** (not) have a car.

We **used to** live in Japan.

My family **used to** go to the countryside for the weekend when I was a child.