

Step by Step Question Formation Chart

Step-by-Step Questions

1. Is it an **auxiliary** question or a **be** question? Look at the complete answer to find out.
2. What is the verb tense?
3. Is it a **yes/no** question or an **information** question?
4. What is the question? (Use the appropriate chart as a guide.)

Auxiliary Questions: The main verb in the answer is NOT the verb "be."
 (e.g., He **likes** dogs.)

Be Questions: The main verb in the answer is "be."
 (e.g., Yes, he **is** at home.)

Auxiliary Questions

Tense	Question	Auxiliary	Subject	Verb	Rest of Sentence
Simple Present		do does		base form (no -s, ed, etc.)	
Present Progressive		am are is		verb-ing	
Simple Past		did		base form	
future		will		base form	
Modals		am is are can could may should must		going to +base form base form	

Be Questions

Tense	Question	Verb <i>be</i>	Subject	Rest of Sentence
Simple Present		am are is		
Simple Past		was were		

Be			
Present	Past		
I am	I was		
You are	You were		
She/He/It is	She/He/It was		
We are	We were		
They are	They were		

Do	
I do	
You do	
She/He/It does	
We do	
They do	

Note

Present progressive, future and modal questions are always **auxiliary** questions.