

To be going to

The structure of *going to*

Subject + be + going + to-infinitive

I am going to buy a new car

How do we use *going to*?

◦ *going to* for intention

We use *going to* when we have the intention to do something before we speak. We have already made a decision before speaking.

-Jo has won the lottery. He says he's **going to buy** a Porsche.

-We're not **going to paint** our bedroom tomorrow.

-When **are you going to go** on holiday?

○ *going to* for prediction

We often use *going to* to make a prediction about the future. Our prediction is based on present evidence. We are saying what we think will happen.

-The sky is very black. It's **going to snow**.

-It's 8.30! You're **going to miss** your train!

-I crashed the company car. My boss **isn't going to be** very happy!

Common mistakes

Correct version

Why?

~~You know that I'll buy a new car, don't you?~~

You know that I'm **going to buy** a new car, don't you?

We use **going to** for a future action that has been decided before the time of speaking.

~~Look! You'll drop your books.~~

Look! You're **going to drop** your books.

We use **going to** if we see (and are sure) that the action will happen.