

Be Used To and Get Used To (Accustomed To)

(Intermediate - Advanced)

BE USED TO

We use **BE USED TO** when we describe something that **seems normal**, that we are **accustomed to**, or that we are **familiar with**. We can use **BE USED TO** when speaking about present or past time. Be careful, you cannot use **BE USED TO** when talking about frequency (usually).

Form	
STATEMENTS:	QUESTIONS:
Subject + BE (NOT) + USED TO + V1 + ING	(Wh-) + BE + Subject + USED TO + VI + ING ?
Subject + BE (NOT) + USED TO + NOUN (PHRASE)	(Wh-) BE + Subject + USED TO + NOUN (PHRASE) ?
<p>Are you used to hot weather? No, I am not used to hot weather. I am used to cooler weather.</p> <p>What time are you used to waking up? I am used to waking up at 8:00. Today I woke up at 6:00. I am not used to waking up so early, so I am very tired now. When I was a child, I was used to waking up at 6:00.</p>	

GET USED TO

We can also use **GET + USED TO** to show something that we are, or are not, **becoming** accustomed to. We can use **GET USED TO** when speaking about present, past, or future time. It has the same form as 'BE USED TO'.

<p>Are you getting used to eating American food? When I arrived in Miami, I didn't like American food. However, now I am getting used to it. I might like American food, but I hope I never get used to the huge portions!</p> <p>When I worked in a bank, I wore a tie every day. I never got used to wearing a tie; I hated it!</p> <p>The traffic in Miami is HORRIBLE! Don't worry, you'll get used to it sooner or later.</p>

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Exercises and Practice

A. Finish the sentences using the most appropriate form of *be used to* or *get used to* and the words provided

1. Alex was late to his first English class on Monday. I don't think he....
_____ (*be / wake up*) early.
2. I love wearing shorts in this hot Miami weather. I ... _____
_____ (*be / wear*) a heavy jacket at home in Moscow.
3. When I first moved to England I needed to.. _____
_____ (*get / drive*) on the left.
4. I love this warm sunny weather. I _____
(*be / not*) it yet, though. I keep forgetting that I don't need to carry a jacket.

B. Your American friend is moving to your city next year. Write them an email telling them about what they will need to get used to.