

## To BE + PAST PARTICIPLE

(in the appropriate tense)

Somebody **built** this house in 1930. ⇒ **(active)**

*(object)*

This house **was built** in 1930. ⇒ **(passive)**

*(Subject)*

<b>We use</b>	<p>an <b>active</b> verb to say <b>what the subject does</b>:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>My grandfather was a builder. He built this house in 1930.</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>It's a big company. It employs two hundred people.</i></p> <p>a <b>passive</b> verb to say what happens to the subject:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>This house is quite old. It was built in 1930.</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>Two hundred people are employed by the company</i></p>
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When we use the **passive**, **who or what causes the action is often unknown or unimportant**:

- *A lot of money was stolen in the robbery.* (we don't know *who*)
- *Is this room cleaned every day?* (it's not important *who*)
  - *This house was built by my grandfather.*
  - *Two hundred people are employed by the company.*

*The house was built in 1930 by ACS*

**Let's distill water:**

- *Water*
- *Bunsen burner*
- *Pipes*
- *Containers for plain water and distilled water*

*We must place all tools in order. We feed the water into the first container...*

*All tools must be placed in order. Then water must be fed into the first container ...*

**Active and passive forms of the *present simple* and *past simple*:**

*PRESENT SIMPLE*

**active: clean(s)/see(s),** Somebody **cleans** this room every day.

**etc.**

**passive: am/is/are cleaned/seen, etc.** This room is cleaned everyday.

- *Many accidents **are caused** by careless driving.*
- *I'm not often **invited** to parties*
- *How **is** this word **pronounced**?*

*PAST SIMPLE*

**active: cleaned/saw etc.** Somebody **cleaned** this room yesterday.

**passive: was/were cleaned/seen etc.** This room **was cleaned** yesterday.

- *We were woken up by a loud noise during the night.*
- *'Did you go to the party?' 'No, I **wasn't** invited.'*
- *How much money **was** stolen?*

Active:

My grandfather *might have been building this bridge* for many years

Passive:

This bridge *might have been being built*

### HAVE SOMETHING DONE

You express those actions that someone does for you.

***She has her hair cut every summer***

***I need to have my computer repaired***

***I had my car washed by my husband***

***They have their food cooked by mums at weekends***

***Mediaset had a poll about vote intention made***

***I need your work done for Monday***

***I need this report written by the end of this week***

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### TWO OBJECT PASSIVE

In English, you can form a passive sentence using Indirect Object

*Mary wrote a letter to me*

*A letter was written to me (by Mary)*

*I was written a letter (by Mary)*

### IMPERSONAL PASSIVE

When we're using impersonal passive, it is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED to use the most specific Object and the subject of the sentence

*All students are going to pass this subject*

*This subject is going to be passed by all students*

*It is said: "all students are going to pass this subject"*

~~*It is said that all students are going to pass this subject*~~ (colloquial)

***This subject*** is going to be passed by all students

***All students*** are said/expected to pass this subject

*(Are not expected/Not all students are expected)*

All students are considered to be able to pass

When you were at high school, teachers said: He/she's an excellent student

*You were considered (to be) an excellent student at high school*

*You were said to be an excellent student (by teacher)*

Teachers say: You were an excellent student

*You're said to have been an excellent student at high school*