

UNIT 15 PRESENT PERFECT WITH *SINCE* AND *FOR*

➤ **FOR THE PRESENT PERFECT, SEE UNIT 13 PAGE 159**

- We can use the present perfect to talk about an action or situation which started in the past and continues in the present. We use *since* and *for* to say how long something has been happening.

We've lived in this house since March.

We've lived in this house for four months.

- We use *since* with the time when the action or situation started.

I've had this computer since 2013, January, my birthday, etc.

- We use *for* with an amount of time, such as the number of hours, months, years, etc.

My dad's worked in that bank for eight weeks, six months, two years, etc.

- We usually use *how long* with the present perfect to ask questions.

How long have you had your dog?

We've had it since last year / for 11 months.

1 Complete the table with the correct time expression.

10 o'clock	10 seconds	13th April 2011
ages	breakfast ever	five days
four months	I was young	May
my birthday	three minutes	Tuesday
two hours	two weeks	a year
		years

Since	For
10 o'clock,	10 seconds

2 Complete the sentences with the present perfect form of the verb in brackets and *for* or *since*.

- My neighbours *have lived* (live) in their house for five years.
- My aunt _____ (have) her cat _____ 2007.
- My brother _____ (not eat) meat _____ a long time.
- I _____ (like) playing tennis _____ I was young.
- We _____ (not see) our cousins _____ months.
- My mum and dad _____ (be) married _____ 1996.

3 Write complete sentences with the present perfect and *for* or *since* so they are true for you.

0 (I / not play computer games)
I haven't played computer games since yesterday.

1 (We / not have maths) _____

2 (my best friend / live in his or her house) _____

3 (my mum / not cook a meal) _____

4 (my friends / know each other) _____

5 (I / not eat anything) _____

4 Write complete questions with *How long ...?* and the present perfect. Then, write your own answers with the present perfect and *for* or *since*.

0 you / know / your best friend?

How long have you known your best friend?

I've known him for four years.

1 your parents / live / here? _____

2 your best friend / have / his or her school bag? _____

3 you / study / in this school? _____

4 your favourite shop / be / open? _____

5 your English teacher / work / in your school? _____