

le futur proche

Le futur proche: the near future in French

Le futur proche, also known as le futur composé, is used to talk about actions in the near future. It corresponds to the English structure going to + infinitive, and emphasises that there is already an intention behind the action.

We use the futur proche in the following cases:

to talk about an action that will take place shortly

to talk about a planned action in the near future

To conjugate the futur proche, we use the present tense of the verb aller as an auxiliary verb, followed by the infinitive of the main verb.

Aller

je vais	+ infinitive
tu vas	+ infinitive
il va	+ infinitive
nous allons	+ infinitive
vous allez	+ infinitive
ils vont	+ infinitive

le futur simple

The 'simple' future (le futur) is so-named because it is a one-word tense. In other words, its formation is simple because there is no auxiliary.

The endings for the simple future are: -ai, -as, -a, -ons, -ez, -ont.

The future stem for -er and -ir verbs is the infinitive. For regular -re verbs, the stem is the infinitive minus the final e. In all cases, the future stem ends in -r: this sound characterizes the future and the conditional. The French simple future tense is generally translated into English with the modal auxiliary 'will.'

The simple future is more formal than the immediate future, although both tenses may be used in most contexts. We mostly use this tense to talk about future plans or intentions, as well as to make predictions about what may occur in the future.

We use the futur simple in the following cases:

to talk about future intentions

to make suppositions or predictions about the future in conditional sentences (if sentences)

infinitive + The endings for the simple future are: -ai, -as, -a, -ons, -ez, -ont.

irregular stems

être — ser-	(elle sera)
avoir — aur-	(j'aurai)
aller — ir-	(nous irons)
faire — fer-	(tu feras)
vouloir — voudr-	(ils voudront)
pouvoir — pourr-	(vous pourrez)
devoir — devr-	(elle devra)
falloir — faudr-	(il faudra)

Irregulars: futur simple: avoir, être, vouloir

avoir	être	vouloir
j'aurai	je serai	je voudrai
tu auras	tu seras	tu voudras
il aura	il sera	il voudra
nous aurons	nous serons	nous voudrons
vous aurez	vous serez	nous voudrez
ils auront	ils seront	ils voudront

More irregulars: futur simple

pouvoir	faire	aller	savoir	venir
je pourrai	je ferai	j'irai	je saurai	je viendrai
tu pourras	tu feras	tu iras	tu sauras	tu viendras
il pourra	il fera	il ira	il saura	il viendra
nous pourrons	nous ferons	nous irons	nous saurons	nous viendrons
vous pourrez	vous ferez	vous irez	vous saurez	vous viendrez
ils pourront	ils feront	ils iront	ils sauront	ils viendront
falloir: il faudra				
plouvoir: il pleuvra				



exceptions: futur simple

Exceptions to the conjugation rules:

A short e in the word stem receives a grave accent (accent grave) in the futur simple

Example: peser – je pèserai

Some verbs double their consonants.

Example: jeter – je jetterai

For some verbs ending in -rir, the i is omitted before adding the future ending.

Example: courir – je courrai

For verbs ending in -yer, the y becomes an i in the futur simple. (For verbs ending in -ayer, both y and i are permitted)

Example: employer – j'emploierai

Verbs ending in -oir are irregular in the futur simple, as are aller, envoyer, faire and venir.

Example: pouvoir – je pourrai,

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