

These lists are not complete; they are meant to give examples but do not include all verbs/words

Verbs followed by Gerund (or object plus gerund)

admit
appreciate
avoid
consider
contemplate
delay
deny
despise
dislike
endure
enjoy
escape
excuse
face
fancy
finish
forgive
give up
can't help
imagine
involve
keep
leave off
mention
mind
miss
postpone
practice
put off
resent
resist
risk
can't stand
suggest
tolerate
report
recommend
recall
discuss
defend
anticipate
lean
lie
stand
sit
acknowledge
celebrate
confess
support

go + recreation activating

double gerund ok: I am going swimming.

Expressions + gerund

busy
It's (not) worth
feel + awful, bad, good, guilty, terrible
It's no use
It's no good
There's no point (in)
have difficulty/trouble/problems
A waste of time/money
Waste/spend time/money
be/get used to
have fun/a good time
sit/stand/lie + (place) +ing
find/catch + (pronoun) +ing

Some verbs can be followed by "having" with the same meaning

admit, deny, forget, recall, regret, remember

He remembered having arrived at the party, but not leaving.

Some of these verbs can also alternatively be used in a "that" structure if there is an object:

Jill suggested (that) we go to the movies. / Jill suggested going to the movies.

Verbs followed by infinitive

afford
agree
aim
appear
arrange
attempt
claim
decide
deserve
fail
forget
hope
learn
manage
offer
plan
pretend
promise
refuse
seem
tend
care
happen
hesitate
intend
demand
swear
wait

* After "seem", "appear", and "pretend" it is common to use the continuous infinitive or the perfect infinitive.
to be doing to have done

* "dare" and "help" can be with infinitive or verb base

Verbs followed by object plus infinitive * or by gerund

advise*
enable
force
invite
get
order
persuade
remind
teach
tell
warn
allow*
urge*
encourage*
permit*
require*
cause
convince
hire

Verbs followed by optional object plus infinitive

ask
beg
expect
help
mean
want
warn
would like
would hate
would love
would prefer
choose
need
prepare
promise
threaten
wish

* We can also say "would like to have done something" to express a regret.
I would like to have seen him before he left.

Abstract nouns plus infinitive

advice
appeal
command
decision
desire
fact
instruction
motivation opportunity
order
permission
plan
possibility
preparation
proposal
recommendation refusal
reminder
request
requirement
suggestion
tendency
wish
way

Adjectives plus infinitive

ahead
amazed
anxious
ashamed
bound
careful
certain
content
delighted determined lovely
disappointed terrific
eager wonderful
eligible awful
fortunate absurd
glad dangerous
happy good
hesitant great
liable hard
likely lucky hopeless
pleased lovely
proud rude
ready safe
reluctant silly
sad strange
shocked useless
sorry wise
surprised wrong
upset angry
unable ashamed
curious glad
due happy
foolish nervous
free sad
inclined tired
prepared
welcome
willing

* Some sentences that start with "it" and an adjective can be with the gerund or infinitive.
It was lovely to see you / seeing you.

Either (no difference in meaning)

attempt
begin
continue
hate
like
love
neglect
prefer
regret
can't stand
start
can't bear/can't stand
cease
propose
urge
require
permit
encourage
allow
advise

When using the progressive form:
Infinitives are preferred over a double gerund
Correct: I am starting to learn Swahili.
Wrong: I am starting learning Swahili.
It started raining.
It was starting to rain.

allow, permit, advise, forbid, encourage
gerund when used on their own: They don't allow eating in the lab.
infinitive when we specify an object or use passive voice. They don't allow anyone to eat in the lab.

VERB	EXAMPLES (infinitive use is highlighted to differentiate)	
remember	Remember to buy some bread on your way home. (not forget) (the remembering comes before the action) She remembered to visit her grandmother. I don't remember buying that dress. (recall) = that I bought/having bought. (the remembering comes after the action) She remembers visiting her grandmother when she was little.	Recuerde comprar un poco de pan de camino a casa. Ella recordó visitar a su abuela. No recuerdo haber comprado ese vestido. Recorda que visitaba a su abuela cuando era pequeña.
stop	Let's stop to ask directions. (interrupt one action to do something else) I stopped to call you. = in order to I think you should stop asking silly questions. (not continue) I stopped calling her.	Hay que parar para pedir direcciones. Me detuve para llamarte. Creo que deberías dejar de hacer preguntas tontas. Dejé de llamarla.
forget	She forgot to call me again. (not remember to do something) I forgot to buy milk. I'll never forget seeing you for the first time. (not recall) = that I saw you I forgot meeting him.	Olvidó llamarme de nuevo. Olvidé comprar leche. Nunca olvidaré haberte visto por primera vez. Olvidé haberlo conocido.
try	He tried to answer the question. (attempt but maybe not succeed; suggests effort and difficulty; make an effort) I tried to open the window. If the food isn't tasty, try adding some salt. (experiment; test an option to see if it helps; make a suggestion; action is carried out) I tried opening the window. (see if it works)	Él trató de responder a la pregunta. (Intento pero no éxito) Intenté abrir la ventana. Si la comida no es sabrosa, intenta ponerle algo de sal. Intenté abriendo la ventana.
regret	I regret to inform you that you have failed. (be sorry about something about to be told) I regret to tell you that we can't hire you. I regret telling those lies. (be sorry about something you have done) I regret promising to help you. = that I promised	Lamento informarte que reprobaste. Lamento decirte que no podemos contratarte. Lamento haber dicho esas mentiras. Me arrepiento de haber prometido ayudarte.
go on	He told us about Jim and then went on to tell us about Sally. (start a new action) He went on to learn English and French. (one period of time ended, and a new period started) I went on telling the story although he wasn't listening. (continue) He went on learning English and French.	Nos habló de Jim y luego nos habló de Sally. Luego aprendió inglés y francés. Seguí contando la historia aunque él no estaba escuchando. Continuó aprendiendo inglés y francés.
mean	I didn't mean to offend you. (intend) If we invite her, it will mean offending her ex-husband. (involve)	No quise ofenderte. Si la invitamos, significará que estamos ofendiendo a su ex marido.
want	I want to stop smoking. (wish) This room wants tidying up. (something need to be done) (less common)	Quiero dejar de fumar. Esta habitación necesita arreglarse.
hate	I hate to cut interrupt, but can I say something? (hate what one is about to do) I hate causing you so much inconvenience. (feel sorry for one is doing)	Odio interupir pero ¿puedo decir algo? Odio causarte tantas molestias.
sorry	We were sorry to hear about your mother. (apologize for a present action/feel sad about something) I'm sorry for hurting your feelings. (apologize for an earlier action)	Lamentamos escuchar sobre tu madre. Siento haber herido tus sentimientos.
Quit	She quit her old job to work here. = in order to She quit working here. (not continue)	Ella dejó su viejo trabajo para trabajar aquí. Ella dejó de trabajar aquí.
Hope	I hope to see you at the party on Friday. I hope traveling with her won't be horrible.	Espero verte en la fieste este viernes. Espero que viajar con ella no sea horrible.

List of Preposition (prepositions are followed by gerund)

as	within
at	about
but	above
by	across
down	after
for	against
from	along
in	around
into	before
like	behind
near	below
next	beneath
of	beside
off	between
on	beyond
onto	during
out	except
over	following
past	inside
plus	minus
minus	onto
since	opposite
than	outside
to	around
up	since
with	through
	toward
	under
	underneath
	unlike
	until
	upon
	without

* "before" and "after" have two options:

Before going out... / Before I went out...

* Sometimes "to" functions as a preposition and is followed by a gerund.

These phrases are all followed by +ing:

look forward to

be accustomed to

in addition to

be committed to

be devoted to

object to

be opposed to

be used to