

The Present Perfect Continuous Tense.

I Inclusive

The action has been taking place for a period of time.
The moment of speaking is included.

- 1) They have been waiting for Gill for an hour.
- 2) I've been reading for the exam since Friday.
- 3) How long have you been living in this village? /How long have you lived ...?/

Verbs of action!
(State verbs are not used in Present Perfect Continuous.)

II Exclusive (the action doesn't include the moment of speaking.)

- 1) You look strange. Have you been crying?
- 2) Why are you so excited? – Bill has been telling us his jokes again.
- 3) You are breathing hard. – I've been running.

The action has been taking place for some time.
The period is not indicated.
The action has been completed before the moment of speaking.
The result of the completed action is evident in the context.

Present Perfect II and Present Continuous.

	Present Perfect II	Present Perfect Continuous
<i>Affirmative</i>	Only verbs, that are not used in Continuous forms. To be To like state verbs To know To have	<u>Most action verbs</u>
	Action verbs of durative meaning to work to live to stay to study	
<i>Negative</i>	Verbs of action Verbs of state	The use of Present Perfect Continuous in negative Sentences is not very common

Verbs of State and Verbs of Action used in the Present Perfect Tense.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. She <u>is</u> (already) <u>married</u> .
(She is a married woman) | Present Simple ! a state |
| 2. She <u>has been</u> <u>married</u> .
(She is no longer married) | Present Perfect I –expresses a completed state.
(means that she has experienced this)
(verb of action) |
| 3. She <u>has already got</u> <u>married</u> . | Present Perfect I –expresses a completed action |
| 4. She <u>has been</u> <u>married</u> for two yeas. | Present Perfect II – expresses duration of a state . |
| 5. She got married last year. | Past Simple – verb of action |

List of verbs of state and verbs of action.

to be ill
to be well
to be asleep
to be in love
to be up

to fall ill
to get well
to fall asleep
to fall in love
to get up

to be used to
to be tired
to be friends with

to get used to
to get tired
to make friends

Special cases I (verbs of action and verbs of state)

Compare the following sentences in view of the verbs, tenses and prepositions.

Have you ever been to Paris? (бывал, побывал)- Present Perfect I

Has he gone to Paris? (уехал, его здесь нет)- Present Perfect I

Has he been in Paris for two weeks? (находится)- Present Perfect II

He was in Paris last year. (был) -Past Simple

He went to Paris last year. (ездил)- Past Simple

Special cases II

I appreciate your friendship.

1. You have always been so kind to me. (Present Perfect resultative, Present Perfect for an indefinite period of time)

I have always liked Maugham's novels.

2. 1) Two years have passed since they started working on the project.
2) It's two years since they started working on the project. (more common for colloquial English)
3. 1) I haven't had holidays for 3 years.
2) Three years have passed since I had holidays.
3) It's three years since I had holidays.
It's the second time that you have asked this question.
It's the first time that he has got into a car crash.
4. She is most beautiful woman. I've ever seen.
5. 1) Did you ever see anything like that?
2) I have never heard such nonsense! (Past Simple is more expressive in such sentences).

6. Traditional use.

1) I hear they are starting a business of their own. (not : I've heard)

2) I'm told Jane wants to go on a travel. (not : I've been told)

3) Could you repeat your question ? I don't understand it. (not : I haven't understood)

4) Jane didn't hear your question. (not : I haven't heard)

but : Have you heard the news ?

Present Perfect III.

1) I'll give you the book if I have read it by Monday.

2) We'll start for the train when you have had a proper breakfast.

(mostly used in clauses of time. Present Perfect is more common)