02 The present simple negative

To make negative sentences using "be" in the present simple, "not" is added after the verb. For other verbs, the auxiliary verb "do not" or "does not" is used.
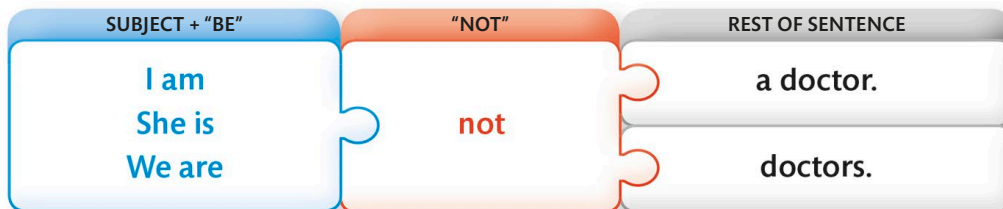
2.1 NEGATIVES WITH THE VERB "BE"

The verb "be" takes the same form in positive and negative sentences. The only difference is adding "not."

I am a farmer. **I am not** a doctor.

HOW TO FORM

SUBJECT + "BE"	"NOT"	REST OF SENTENCE
I am / She is / We are	not	a doctor.
		doctors.

2.2 NEGATIVE CONTRACTIONS

"Is not" and "are not" can be contracted in two ways. The subject and verb can be contracted, or the verb and "not." They mean the same thing.

You are not a doctor.

"You are" becomes "you're."

You're not
You aren't } a doctor.

"Are not" becomes "aren't."

FURTHER EXAMPLES

I'm not a teacher.

"I amn't" is incorrect.

He's not
He isn't } a farmer.

They're not
They aren't } American.

2.3 NEGATIVES WITH OTHER VERBS IN THE PRESENT SIMPLE

For verbs other than "be," "do not" or "does not" goes before the verb to make the negative.

I **work** outside.

I **do not** work outside.

He **works** inside.

He **does not work** inside.

Verb in base form.

HOW TO FORM

SUBJECT	"DO / DOES" + "NOT"	BASE FORM	REST OF SENTENCE
I / You / We / They	do not	work	outside.
He / She / It	does not		

The base form is used no matter what the subject is.

FURTHER EXAMPLES

You **do not have** a computer.

He **does not live** in Los Angeles.

We **don't start** work at 8am.

He **doesn't have** a car.

This is the contracted form of "does not."

⚠ COMMON MISTAKES FORMING NEGATIVE SENTENCES

The main verb in a negative sentence always stays in its base form, even if the subject is "he," she," or "it."

He **does not work** outside. ✅

He does not works outside. ❌