

## The meanings of the word *like*

In the English language the verb *like* is very often used to talk about preferences, for example *I like the company's new web site*. However, this is not the only function, nor the only meaning of this word. Below you will find a chart which illustrates different uses of the word *like*.

Part of speech	Form	Meaning	Example
verb	like + subject	to enjoy or approve of something or someone	Most customers didn't like the product.
	like + gerund		I don't like working in a team.
	like + to infinitive	to think something is wise, right or a good idea	Our supervisor likes to organise the team according to the particular strengths of all the members.
verb	would like + subject	to want or wish something	They asked if I would like a new product or a refund.
	would like + to infinitive		We would like to show you our new and up-to-date website.
	would like + gerund	to talk about someone's tastes generally rather than about a particular action	I would like working in the same field but in the private sector.
noun	the like(s) of	the equal or counterpart of a person or thing, especially one respected or prized	This phone's applications are lagging behind the like of the iPhone.
	and such like; and the like	listing things but not providing an exhaustive list	Aleos is a company producing edible oils, soaps, detergents and the like.
	likes	the things that someone enjoys	The web site allows people to comment on the product, voicing their likes and dislikes.
adverb		in informal spoken English, a parenthetic filler to make a pause in speaking or add slight emphasis to a statement	I was, like, really tired yesterday after the conference.
preposition		such as; for example	Expenses like office telephone bills are tax deductible.
		typical or characteristic of someone or something	It's like my boss to say what he thinks.
		similar to; in the same way or manner as someone or something	I've been working like a dog all week and could really use a break.
	be like	to ask for and give general description	What's your boss like? – He's arrogant and rude.
	look like	to ask for and give opinion about appearance	What does your boss look like? – He's tall and thin.
conjunction		as if	It looks like I'm going to be in the office until late tonight.