Make and Do

Here's a brief explanation of the rules for using "make" and "do":

Make:

Creation or Construction:

- **Examples:** She **made** a delicious cake. He **made** a promise.

Production or Manufacturing:

- **Examples:** They **make** cars in that factory. She **made** a beautiful painting.

Cause to Happen:

- **Examples:** The news **made** her happy. The weather **made** the event memorable.

Creating a Result:

- **Examples:** He **made** a suggestion. She **made** a decision.

Do:

Activities and Tasks:

- **Examples:** I need to **do** my homework. He **did** the dishes.

Work and Jobs:

- **Examples:** She **does** a great job as a manager. He **did** some freelance work.

Routine Actions:

- **Examples:** I **do** yoga every morning. They **did** their daily chores.

Generic or Unspecified Actions:

- **Examples:** What are you **doing**? Just **doing** some reading.

In general:

- Use "make" when referring to creating or constructing something, producing or manufacturing, causing something to happen, or creating a result.

- Use "do" when referring to activities, tasks, work, jobs, routine actions, or generic or unspecified actions.

Remember that there are some fixed expressions and idioms where the choice between "make" and "do" may not follow these rules precisely. Practice and exposure to context will help reinforce the correct usage.

Make vs. Do: Practice

Part 1: Fill in the blanks with the correct form of "make" or "do":

1. Can you _____ a decision about the project by tomorrow?
2. It's essential to _____ a good impression during the job interview.
3. She _____ a delicious cake for the party.
4. The chef is skilled at _____ various cuisines in the restaurant.
5. We need to _____ preparations for the upcoming event.
6. He enjoys _____ sketches in his free time.
7. Don't forget to _____ your bed every morning.
8. The students were asked to _____ a presentation on their research.
9. I usually _____ a quick workout in the morning.
10. She _____ a promise to always be there for her friends.

Part 2: Complete the sentences using the correct form of "make" or "do":

1. Can you _____ some photocopies of these documents for the meeting?
2. The team is determined to _____ a difference in the community.
3. I always _____ my best to meet deadlines at work.
4. The artist decided to _____ a mural on the city wall.
5. It's time to _____ a plan for the upcoming project.
6. He decided to _____ a reservation at the fancy restaurant for their anniversary.
7. As a parent, you often have to _____ tough decisions for your children.
8. The students were asked to _____ a project that demonstrates their creativity.
9. I usually _____ my own lunch to bring to work.
10. The carpenter can _____ beautiful furniture from scratch.

While the general rules help distinguish between "make" and "do" in many contexts, there are some fixed expressions and idioms where the choice may not align strictly with those rules. Here are some examples:

Fixed Expressions with "Make":

Make a difference:

- **Meaning:** To have a positive impact or effect on a situation.
- *Example:* Volunteering can **make a difference** in the community.

Make a phone call:

- **Meaning:** To initiate a telephone conversation.
- *Example:* I need to **make a phone call** to confirm the appointment.

Make a suggestion:

- **Meaning:** To propose an idea or recommend something.
- *Example:* Can you **make a suggestion** for our next project?

Make an exception:

- **Meaning:** To allow something outside the usual rules.
- *Example:* The manager decided to **make an exception** and approve the request.

Make a reservation:

- **Meaning:** To arrange in advance to secure a spot, often at a restaurant or hotel.
- *Example:* We should **make a reservation** for dinner tonight.

Fixed Expressions with "Do":

Do the laundry:

- **Meaning:** To wash and clean clothes.
- *Example:* I need to **do the laundry** this weekend.

Do someone a favor:

- **Meaning:** To do something helpful for someone.
- *Example:* Can you **do me a favor** and pick up my mail?

Do harm:

- **Meaning:** To cause damage or injury.
- *Example:* The chemical spill could **do harm** to the environment.

Do business:

- **Meaning:** To engage in commercial or professional activities.
- *Example:* Our company **does business** with clients worldwide.

Do the right thing:

- **Meaning:** To act ethically or morally.
- *Example:* It's important to always **do the right thing** in difficult situations.

These expressions have fixed patterns, and it's advisable to learn them individually. While the general guidelines are helpful, idiomatic expressions often have their own rules.

Answers:

Part 1: Fill in the blanks with the correct form of "make" or "do":

1. Can you **make** a decision about the project by tomorrow?
2. It's essential to **make** a good impression during the job interview.
3. She **made** a delicious cake for the party.
4. The chef is skilled at **making** various cuisines in the restaurant.
5. We need to **make** preparations for the upcoming event.
6. He enjoys **making** sketches in his free time.
7. Don't forget to **make** your bed every morning.
8. The students were asked to **make** a presentation on their research.
9. I usually **do** a quick workout in the morning.
10. She **made** a promise to always be there for her friends.

Part 2: Complete the sentences using the correct form of "make" or "do":

1. Can you **make** some photocopies of these documents for the meeting?
2. The team is determined to **make** a difference in the community.
3. I always **do** my best to meet deadlines at work.
4. The artist decided to **make** a mural on the city wall.
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