

# AGREEMENT WITH DIRECT OBJECTS

## LE PASSÉ COMPOSÉ



## Agreement with Direct Object and Direct Object Pronouns in the Passé Composé

French verbs are conjugated in the passé composé either with *avoir* or *être* as their auxiliary verbs.

When using *être* as an auxiliary verb, past participles need to agree with their subjects in number and gender.

When using *avoir* as an auxiliary verb, you never need to make agreement with the subject. However, there is a specific time when *avoir* verbs require agreement, and that is when there is a *direct object* or *direct object pronoun* that precedes the past participle.

This rule only applies to direct objects, and not to other types of pronouns such as indirect object pronouns (*lui / leur*) and adverbial pronouns (*y / en*).

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## For example:

- Je vais laver **les chaises** que tu as laissées**es** dans le jardin.
- Lesquelles?
- **Celles** que tu as laissées**es** dans le jardin hier soir.
- Ne t'inquiète pas, je **les** ai déjà lavées**es**.

Don't make agreement when *avoir* is the auxiliary verb in the following situations:

1. The direct object follows the verb:  
J'ai laissé **les chaises** dans le jardin.
2. Don't make agreement with using the causative faire construction:  
**Les chaises** que j'ai **fait** laver sont dans le jardin.

If you want a very comprehensive passé composé quiz using both être and avoir as auxiliary verbs, try [this one](#). This is not a beginner level quiz.

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