

# OBLIGER À VS OBLIGÉ DE



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## Using "Obliger à" and "Être obligé de" in French

### **OBLIGER À + INFINITIF (Verb)**

Definition: To compel or bind someone by a moral or legal obligation.

#### **Rules for Usage:**

1. The verb obliger directly acts on a person or subject.
2. The preposition à is always used after obliger when followed by an infinitive.
3. Obliger often implies external pressure or authority forcing someone to act.

#### **Examples:**

- On nous oblige à faire des recherches.  
We are obliged [forced] to do research.
- Il m'oblige à lire dans ma chambre.  
He makes me [forces me to] read in my room.

### **ÊTRE OBLIGÉ DE + INFINITIF (Adjective)**

Definition: To be bound or compelled by an obligation or necessity.

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**Rules for Usage:**

1. Obligé functions as an adjective describing the subject.
2. Use the verb être to state that someone is under obligation or necessity.
3. The preposition de follows obligé when introducing the infinitive.
4. When expressing a subjective feeling of obligation, pair obligé with se sentir.

**Examples:**

- Elle est obligée de rester chez elle.  
She is obliged [forced] to stay at home.
- Elle se sent obligée de rester chez elle.  
She feels compelled to stay at home.

**Key Difference**

- Use obliger à when focusing on an external force or person compelling action.
- Use être obligé de when describing a state of necessity or obligation felt by the subject.

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