

FRENCH EXPRESSION

«PRENDRE FIN»



The French Expression Prendre Fin

The French expression *prendre fin* means “to come to an end”. It’s a formal way to describe the conclusion of something, often used for events, situations, or time periods.

This phrase is an excellent example of how *prendre* (which literally means “to take”) can be used in [idiomatic expressions](#) that are not directly related to the idea of taking.

Examples of Prendre Fin in Different Tenses

Présent	La réunion prend fin à midi.	The meeting is coming to an end at noon.
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Futur proche	Le film va prendre fin dans cinq minutes.	The movie is going to come to an end in five minutes.
Passé Composé	La fête a pris fin plus tôt que prévu.	The party came to an end earlier than expected.
Imparfait	La guerre prenait fin lorsque les négociations ont commencé.	The war was coming to an end when the negotiations began.
Futur simple	La cérémonie prendra fin après le discours final.	The ceremony will come to an end after the final speech.
Conditionnel	Si tout allait bien, la crise prendrait fin bientôt.	If everything went well, the crisis would come to an end soon.
Plus-que-parfait	Le spectacle avait pris fin avant notre arrivée.	The show had come to an end before our arrival.

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Subjunctive	Il est important que la discussion prenne fin à l'heure prévue.	It's important that the discussion end on time.
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Formality

Prendre fin is a fairly formal expression. For informal settings, verbs like *se terminer* or *finir* are more common.

Avoiding Reflexive Verbs by Mistake

Prendre fin is not reflexive, unlike *se terminer*. Saying *se prendre fin* is incorrect.

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