

FRENCH VERB RÉUSSIR vs. RÉUSSIR À



Réussir vs Réussir à

RÉUSSIR = TO SUCCEED / TO MANAGE / TO DO WELL

The French verb *réussir* can be used with or without the preposition *à*, depending on the context and the structure of the sentence. This verb has many different meanings that don't always directly translate to English.

Without à: When *réussir* is followed by a direct object (noun or pronoun), it does not require the preposition "à." *Réussir* does not require *à* when followed by other prepositions like *dans* or *sans*.

With à: When *réussir* is followed by an infinitive, it requires the preposition *à*. *Réussir* also requires *à* when followed by an indirect object (noun or pronoun).

WITHOUT À	WITH À
J'ai réussi <u>l'examen</u> .	J'ai réussi <u>à comprendre</u> .

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↓ direct object ↓	↓ infinitive ↓
I passed the exam.	I managed to understand.
Tu as bien réussi <u>ta crème brûlée</u>.	Max réussit toujours à <u>être en retard</u>.
↓ direct object ↓	↓ infinitive ↓
You did a great job with your crème brûlée.	Max always manages to be late.
Il a réussi <u>son coup</u>. <i>idiomatic expression</i>	La vie en France réussit à <u>Roger</u>.
↓ direct object ↓	↓ indirect object (person) ↓
He pulled it off.	Life in France is going well for Roger.
Ma soeur a bien réussi <u>sa vie</u>.	Ça ne réussit pas à <u>Stéphane</u> de ne pas assez dormir.
↓ direct object ↓	↓ indirect object (person) ↓
My sister has done very well for herself.	It doesn't suit Stéphane not to get enough sleep.
Elle a réussi <u>dans sa vie personnelle et professionnelle</u>.	Le fromage ne réussit pas bien à <u>Léa</u>!

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↓ preposition dans ↓	↓ indirect object (person) ↓
She has thrived in her personal and professional life.	Cheese doesn't agree with Léa!
Comment réussir <u>sans</u> s'épuiser?	Je ne réussirai jamais à <u>apprendre à skier</u>.
↓ preposition sans ↓	↓ infinitive ↓
How to succeed without burning out?	I'll never manage to learn to ski.

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