

## The impersonal passive

To express other people's opinions in a formal style, we can use two special forms of the passive. They can be used with a number of verbs, including: *say, believe, think, claim, estimate*, etc. Some other verbs (*argue, suggest, calculate*, etc) are usually used with only the second structure.

**Form** noun + *is/are said to* + bare infinitive/perfect infinitive  
*It is said that* + clause

Active	Passive
People <b>think</b> he <b>is</b> a great chef.	He <b>is thought to be</b> a great chef. It <b>is thought that he is</b> a great chef.
People <b>believe</b> he <b>was</b> a great chef.	He <b>is believed to have been</b> a great chef. It <b>is believed that he was</b> a great chef.
People <b>claim</b> he <b>has had</b> an influence on many other chefs.	He <b>is claimed to have had</b> an influence on many other chefs. It <b>is claimed that he has had</b> an influence on many other chefs.
People <b>say</b> he <b>has been making</b> the best cheese in the area for over thirty years.	He <b>is said to have been making</b> the best cheese in the area for over thirty years. It <b>is said that he has been making</b> the best cheese in the area for over thirty years.
People <b>estimated</b> that his restaurant <b>was</b> worth over \$10 million.	His restaurant <b>was estimated to be / to have been</b> worth over \$10 million. It <b>was estimated that his restaurant was</b> worth over \$10 million.
People <b>have suggested</b> that he <b>is</b> a great chef.	It <b>has been suggested that he is</b> a great chef.

## The causative

**Form** noun + *have/get* in the correct form + noun + past participle (+ *by/with* + noun)

Use	Example
To show that someone arranges for someone else to do something for them	I <b>have</b> my groceries <b>delivered</b> by the supermarket once a week. We <b>are having</b> a new cooker <b>put in</b> tomorrow. We <b>had</b> a large wedding cake <b>made</b> . <b>Have you had</b> your kitchen <b>decorated</b> ? We <b>are going to have</b> the food for the party <b>made</b> by a catering company.
To refer to an unpleasant situation which hasn't been arranged	We <b>had</b> our herb garden <b>vandalised</b> while we were away. The Smiths <b>have had</b> their new microwave <b>stolen</b> .

Watch out!

- Using the verb *get* is usually more informal than using *have*.  
 ✓ Can you go and **get** this recipe **photocopied** for me?
- We can also use *get somebody to do* and *have somebody do* when we want to refer to the person we arrange to do something for us.  
 ✓ Why don't you **get the chef to prepare** you a vegetarian meal?  
 ✓ Why don't you **have the chef prepare** you a vegetarian meal?

## Direct and indirect objects

Some verbs can be followed by both a direct and an indirect object (usually a person). These verbs include:  
*bring, buy, get, give, lend, make, offer, owe, pass, promise, send, show, take, teach, tell, write*, etc.

Active	Passive
We can put the indirect object either immediately after the verb, or at the end of the sentence with a preposition ( <i>for/to</i> , etc). A friend gave <b>my sister</b> this cookery book. A friend gave this cookery book <b>to my sister</b> .	The subject of the sentence can be either the indirect object or the direct object of the active sentence. <b>My sister</b> was given this cookery book by a friend. <b>This cookery book</b> was given to my sister by a friend.