**PAST PERFECT USES.**

PAST PERFECT FORMS

The past perfect is formed using **had + past participle**.

Questions are indicated by inverting the subject and had. Negatives are made with not.

* Statement: You **had studied** English before you moved to New York.
* Question: **Had** you **studied** English before you moved to New York?
* Negative: You **had** not **studied** English before you moved to New York.

USE 1 COMPLETED ACTION BEFORE SOMETHING IN THE PAST

past perfect completed action

The past perfect expresses the idea that something occurred before another action in the past. It can also show that something happened before a specific time in the past.

Examples:

* I **had** never **seen** such a beautiful beach before I went to Hawai.
* I did not have any money because I **had lost** my wallet.
* Tony knew Bilbao so well because he **had visited** the city many times.
* **Had** Susan ever **studied** Chinese before she moved to China?
* She only understood the movie because she **had read** the book.

USE 2 DURATION BEFORE SOMETHING IN THE PAST (NON-CONTINUOUS VERBS, VER NOTA)

past perfect duration

With [non-continuous verbs](https://www.englishpage.com/verbpage/types.html) we use the past perfect to show that something started in the past and continued until another action in the past.

Examples:

* We **had had** that car for ten years before it broke down.
* They felt bad about selling the house because they **had owned** it for more than forty years.

**Nota:**

**Non-Continuous Verbs**

These verbs are rarely used in continuous tenses.

Abstract Verbs

to be, to want, to cost, to seem, to need, to care, to contain, to owe, to exist...

Possession Verbs

to possess, to own, to belong...

Emotion Verbs

to like, to love, to hate, to dislike, to fear, to envy, to mind...

Examples:

* He is needing help now. Not Correct
* He needs help now. **Correct**
* He is wanting a drink now. Not Correct
* He wants a drink now. **Correct.**

USE 3 IMPORTANT SPECIFIC TIMES WITH THE PAST PERFECT

past perfect with specific time

It is possible to use specific time words or phrases with the past perfect. Although this is possible, it is usually not necessary.

Example:

* She **had visited** her Japanese relatives once in 1993 before she moved in with them in 1996