

Present Simple Passive

This is an **active** sentence:

EVERYONE IN THE FAMILY **USES** THIS LAPTOP.

The
SUBJECT
does the
action.



This is the
DIRECT
OBJECT

This is a **passive** sentence:

THIS LAPTOP **IS USED** BY EVERYONE IN THE FAMILY

We give more importance to The laptop by placing it first.

Passive Verb



We give less importance to the people who do the action.



We use the **passive** when the **action** is more important than the **person** or **thing** doing it.

It's a bit like how news is reported, where the focus is on **what happened**, not **who did it**.

Example:



The city is cleaned every morning.

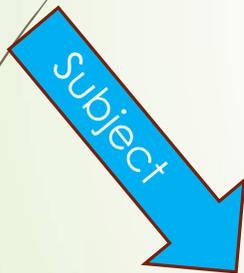
How do we change a sentence from active to passive?

Follow these four steps.



STEP 1: The direct object becomes the subject

Nokia makes mobiles.



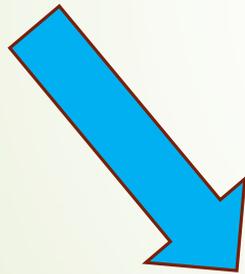
Mobiles ...



Step 2:

In present passive, we add **IS** or **ARE** depending on the subject.

Nokia makes mobiles.



Mobiles are

Step 3:

We add the PAST PARTICIPLE of the verb in the active sentence.

Nokia makes mobiles.



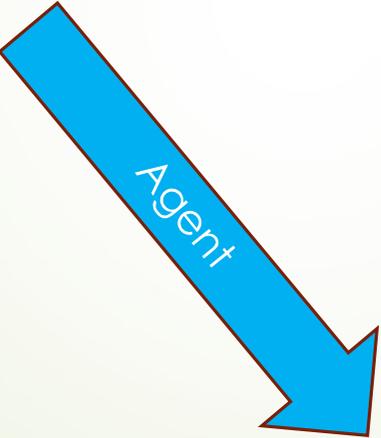
Mobiles are made ...

Step 4:

If we want to say who does the action, we add
by + the person or thing.



Nokia makes mobiles.



Agent

Mobiles are made by Nokia.

THE **AGENT** IS NOT ALWAYS NECESSARY

FOR EXAMPLE:

The swimming pool changing rooms are cleaned every day **by the cleaners**.

By the cleaners is not needed here because it is something evident.

But look at this example:

Once a year, the swimming pool changing rooms are cleaned **by schoolchildren** as part of a school project.

Here, the agent is relevant.



Image by svklimkin

Summary

4 STEPS

1. The direct object becomes the subject
2. In present passive, we add IS or ARE
3. We add the PAST PARTICIPLE
4. When necessary, we add the agent:
by + the person or thing that does the action