

Position of frequency adverbs

Frequency adverbs (e.g. often, always, never, sometimes, generally, seldom, rarely, ever, frequently etc.) usually go in the following positions:

before the main verb

after the verb be

between the auxiliary verb and the main verb

before used to and have to

Before the main verb

I often visit my parents.

He always buys comics.

They hardly ever visit us.

I seldom read foreign periodicals.

After the verb be

Subject + be + adverb + complement

He is always late for college.

I am often ready for work at 6 am.

He is never worried about his finances.

I am never asked to speak at public meetings.

They are rarely invited to parties.

Between the auxiliary verb and the principal verb

I have always thought of standing for election.

He has always done justice to all.

We shall never explore such opportunities.

He will hardly ever appreciate your kind gesture.

I have sometimes managed to hoodwink others.

It has rarely caught my attention.

They are never ready for compromise.

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Notes

Used to and have to are always placed after the adverbs.

The fire brigade always has to be ready for emergencies.

We sometimes used to go for long drives.

When the auxiliaries are to be stressed , they are sometimes put after the adverbs.

I often am worried about my finances.

We never should take such risks.