

Verb patterns with it

When the real subject is a gerund or an infinitive or a clause, it is used as a provisional subject to begin the sentence. Different verb patterns are possible.

It + be + adjective + of + noun / pronoun + to-infinitive

The adjectives used in this pattern include the following: *kind, good, generous, considerate, foolish, stupid, unwise, clever, wise, nice, wrong, polite, brave, cowardly, silly, wicked, cruel, careless* etc.

It is kind of you to help us.

It was careless of her to leave the keys on the table.

It was foolish of him to reject the offer.

It is wicked of him to say such things.

It was unwise of me to lend him money.

It + be + adjective + to-infinitive

It is easy to learn English.

It isn't easy to give up smoking.

It is cruel to treat animals in that way.

It was impossible to reach there in time.

It + be + subject complement + gerund phrase

It is no use arguing with him.

It is worth seeing the film.

It is no use worrying about it.

It + be + adjective / noun + that-clause

It is strange that she should forget me so quickly.

It is possible that she doesn't realize the gravity of the situation.

It is doubtful whether he will be able to come.

It is fortunate that you escaped unhurt.

It + take + pronoun + time phrase + to-infinitive

Verb patterns with it

It took me twenty minutes to reach the station.

It only takes me two minutes to get ready.

It took him two months to recover from his illness.

It took me quite sometime to adjust to the new circumstances.

It took her ten years to finish her first book.