

DARE

Dare, meaning **have the courage to do something**, can be used in two ways:

Non-modal verb

It is followed by an infinitive with **to**, with **s** in the third person singular and with questions and negatives formed with **do**

- Paco never dares to criticise Andrés for wasting money and Andrés doesn't dare to interrupt him when he's studying.

Modal verb

As a modal auxiliary verb, it is followed by an infinitive without **to**, with no third person singular **s** and with questions and negatives without **do**:

- Dare Paco tell his brother what he thinks about him? He daren't say anything. How dare he speak about him like that?

Differences in use are not as fixed or clear between **doesn't dare to** and **daren't** as they are between **doesn't need to** and **needn't**, except in expressions or collocations such as:

- * How dare you? - How dare you interrupt me when I'm working?
- * I dare you to... - I dare you to phone him and ask him how he is.
- * I dare say... - I dare say you're very tired after that long flight.

In this last example, I **dare say** means **I suppose**.

Note that **dare**, like other modals, is never used in progressive form and **need** is not often used in progressive form:

- I was working as hard as I dared.
- Are you going to the centre of the city today, Andrés? Paco needs a lift.
- Will you be needing any help with your homework, Paco?, Sonia asks.