



A: How do you feel about your new job? Are you getting used to the new routine?

B: Getting up so early in the morning is still a bit difficult. I *used to* work in a bar and the hours were very different. I *was used to* staying in bed late in the morning, and having a long, slow breakfast.

A: Did you prefer working in the evenings, then?

B: No, not at all. I love finishing at midday. Give me another couple of weeks and I'm sure I'll *be used to* getting up at four o'clock!

Presentation

You can use *used to* as an adjective:

*I'm **used to** working at night.* (= I'm accustomed to working at night.)

be used to

Use *be used to* to explain that someone is familiar with a situation or a routine:

*I'm **used to** staying in bed late.*

Don't use *be used to* in the continuous:

~~*I'm being used to*~~ working late at night.

get used to

Use *get used to* in the present continuous to explain that someone is in the process of becoming familiar with a situation:

*I'm **getting used to** working early in the morning.*

Use the past simple to show that the process is complete:

*I quickly **got used to** the new routine.*

used to (verb) and be/get used to (verb + adjective)

When you use *used to* as a verb, it is followed by the infinitive:

*I **used to** work nights.*

You can only use *used to* as a verb to talk about the past.

Use *be/get used to* with a noun or with verb + *-ing*:

*I'm **used to** **early mornings**.* (noun)

*I'm **getting used to** **working early in the morning**.*
(verb + *-ing*)

You can use *be/get used to* to talk about the past, present or future:

past: *I **was/got used to** **getting up late**.*

present: *I'm/I'm **getting used to** **working in the morning**.*

future: *I'll **be/get used to** **getting up at four o'clock**.*

See page 235: Summary of *be used to*

1 Choose the correct options.

I grew up in the city, so ¹*I'm* / *I'm getting* used to noise and traffic. It's taking me some time to ²*be* / *get* used to the peace and quiet out here in the country!



Our daughter is almost a year old now. ³*I'm slowly* / *I'm slowly getting* used to life as a parent. I quickly ⁴*was* / *got* used to the sleepless nights and the toys all over the house. And I know I'll have to ⁵*be* / *get* used to being called 'Daddy' pretty soon, too, now that Rosie's started talking.



2 Complete the sentences with the correct form of *be* or *get*.

- He used to travelling on the train to work every day. He'd been doing it for years and always took a book with him.
- They soon used to the new routine and really enjoyed the change.
- Moving to a new town can be quite stressful, but I'm sure I used to it pretty quickly.
- At the beginning, I (not) used to working nights and I found it very difficult to adapt.
- She had always lived alone and used to having the house to herself, so she didn't like having visitors to stay.
- We (not) used to all this noise and we're finding it very difficult to sleep at night.

3 Ⓞ Complete the dialogue with the correct form of *used to*, *be used to* and *get used to*. Then listen and check.

- A: So, what ¹ you do before you became a teacher?
- B: I ² work as a banker in the City, in London.
- A: Why did you decide to become a teacher?
- B: My working life ³ be very stressful. I ⁴ working ten or twelve hours a day and under a lot of pressure. It was very tiring and I decided it was time for a change.
- A: Was it difficult to ⁵ your new lifestyle?
- B: Well, I ⁶ earning a lot more money, so it took me a bit of time to ⁷ living on a teacher's salary! And I ⁸ (not) working with kids, but now I'm slowly ⁹ the role of teacher and I'm loving every minute of it – well, almost!
- A: And what about your new working routine?
- B: I ¹⁰ the shorter working hours and the longer holidays very quickly! I only ¹¹ take ten or fifteen days' holiday a year when I was a banker. Now I have six weeks' holiday in the summer alone. That's great!

4 Complete these sentences so that they are true for you.

- I'm used to at work/school/university.
- I'm still not used to
- I'm slowly getting used to