

# Modal Verbs

## SHOULD / OUGHT TO

### Form:

Affirmative: subject + should / ought to + base verb

Negative: subject + shouldn't / ought not to + base verb

Interrogative: should + subject + base verb

### Uses:

- 'Should' expresses a light obligation in formal contexts.  
For example: All visitors to the building should carry a badge.
- We often use 'should' when we ask for or give an opinion about something.  
For example: I don't think you should work so hard.
- You can use 'ought to' instead of 'should' to ask for or give an opinion.  
But we usually don't use 'ought to' in questions.  
For example: It's really a good film. You ought to go and see it.  
Should I put cool wáter on a burn?
- Both 'should' and 'ought to' have not a form in the past. They use the perfect: 'should have' or 'ought to have' + past participle to express the past tense.  
For example: You should have visited your grandma last weekend.