

French Grammar Express- The verb ALLER

ALLER [ahl☺]- to go



A key verb

Memorise how it is conjugated in the PRESENT TENSE

I	je	vais	[juhveh]
You (one person)	tu	vas	[tə vah]
He, it	il	va	[eelvah]
She, it	elle	va	[ehlvah]
One, we	on	va	[övah]
we	nous	allons	[noozahlö]
You (all)	vous	allez	[voozahl☺]
They (m.)	ils	vont	[eelvö]
They (f.)	elles	vont	[ehlvö]

aller à...

With countries:

- If the country is **feminine** (La France) → Je vais **en** France – I go to France
- If the country is **masculine** (Le Portugal) Je vais **au** Portugal – I go to Portugal
- If the country is **plural** (Les Etats-Unis) → Je vais **aux** Etats-Unis – I go to the United States

With cities:

Je vais **à** Paris – I go to Paris.
 Nous allons **à** Londres – We go to London.
 Il va **à** New York – He goes to New York.

aller à...

With other places (to the):

- If the place is **feminine** (la) or if it **starts with a vowel/h** (l').
 → Je vais **à** la poste – I go to the post office.
 → Il vont **à** l'opéra – they go to the opera.

With masculine (le) and plural (les) places:

 **à + le → au** [oh] Le musée- je vais **au** musée – I go to the museum.
à + les → aux [oh] Les magasins- je vais **aux** magasins – I go to the shops.

In useful common expressions

aller...

bien	[beeē]	to be/feel good/fine
mal	[mah]	to be/feel bad
mieux	[meeuh]	to be/feel better
chercher	[shehrsh☺]	to pick up (someone/something)
trop loin	[trohlwē]	to go too far
comme un gant	[kohmēgā]	to fit like a glove
droit au but	[drwhatohb☺t]	to go straight to the point
Jusqu'au bout	[juskohboo]	to stick it to the end

- Je **vais** bien. – I am good/ fine.
- Il **va** chercher Marie. – He is picking up Marie.
- Mes parents **vont** mieux. – My parents are/feel better.

Other uses:

- To ask how someone is an say how you are. Ça **va**? – are you ok?
 Oui, ça **va** bien – yes, I'm fine.
- As a sign of encouragement. Allez les bleus! – Come on blues!
- to ask if something is okay. Le menu, ça **vous va**? – is the menu ok?
 Ça **te va** une omelette? – Are you ok with an omelette?
- to say something suits/matches. Cette couleur **te va** bien? – This colour suits you.
 Le chapeau **va** avec les gants – the hat goes with the gloves.

TO TALK ABOUT THE FUTURE The immediate future

je	vais	+	INFINITIVE VERB	Je vais manger une pizza. I'm going to eat a pizza.	
tu	vas		manger		to eat
il	va		finir		to finish
elle	va		vendre		to sell
on	va		faire		to do
nous	allons		partir		to leave
vous	allez		aller		to go
ils	vont				
elles	vont				

Elle **va** **finir** son travail.
She's going **to finish** her work.

Ils **vont** **aller** au cinéma.
They're going **to go** to the cinema.