

Had I known

Point 1 : A common expression in English is "Had I known..." which expresses someone did not do something because they were not aware of some information.

1. Had I known you were in town, I would have invited you to my house.
2. Had I known you were sick, I would have made you some soup.
3. Had I known you played golf, I'd have asked you to play with us.

Point 2: The phrase "had I known" is a shortened way of saying "If I had known" but with the same effect.

- If I had known you were in town, I would have invited you to my house.
 - Had I known you were in town, I would have invited you to my house.
- If I had known you were sick, I would have made you some soup.
 - Had I known you were sick, I would have made you some soup.
- If I had known you played golf, I'd have asked you to play with us.
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Point 3: The phrase "I would have" is usually reduced to "I'd have" in spoken English and sounds like /I duv/ or /I dove/.

1. Had I known you were in town, **I'd have** invited you to my house.
2. Had I known you were sick, **I'd have** made you some soup.
3. Had I known you played golf, **I'd have** asked you to play with us.

Point 4: The pronoun "that" is often used to refer to a previous clause.

- **I play golf.**
 - Had I known **that**, I would have asked you to play with us.
- **I was sick.**
 - Had I known **that**, I'd have made you some soup.
- **I was in town.**
 - Had I known **that**, I would have invited you over for dinner.

Had I known

Watch four videos using the phrase "**had I known**" in conversation.

Conversation 1 | [PDF Worksheet](#)

Man: What did you do last night?

Woman: I went to dinner with Bob.

Man: Oh, that sounds fun.

Woman: What did you do? Did you work?

Man: No, I just stayed home. I didn't work last night.

Woman: Oh. *Had I known* that, I *would've invited* you.

Man: Maybe next time.

Conversation 2 | [PDF Worksheet](#)

Man: The traffic is so slow.

Woman: Yeah, I know. We're going to be late for the game.

Man: Yeah. *Had I known* it was going to be this bad, I *would've taken* the train.

Woman: I know. It *would've been* much faster.

Man: Oh well, nothing we can do now but hope for the best.

Woman: Yeah, fingers crossed.

Conversation 3 | [PDF Worksheet](#)

Man: So, what are you going to order?

Woman: I'm not sure. I don't see any vegetarian dishes.

Man: You're a vegetarian?

Woman: Yeah. I thought you knew.

Man: No. I had no idea.

Woman: Yeah, I am. For 10 years now.

Man: Oh no. *Had I known* that, I *would've taken* you somewhere else.

Woman: No worries. I'm used to it. I'm sure I'll find something I can eat.

Conversation 4 | [PDF Worksheet](#)

Man: What did you do on Saturday?

Woman: I played golf at the new course by the river.

Man: Oh, I love that course. I tried it last week.

Woman: I didn't know you played golf.

Man: Yeah. Ever since I was a kid.

Woman: Oh. *Had I known* that, I *would've invited* you to play.

Man: Oh yeah? Well, no worries. I was busy on Sunday, anyway.

Woman: Well, still, I hope you can join us next time.

Man: Thanks. I'd love to.

Quiz

Answer these questions about the interview.

- 1) Who went to dinner with Bob?
 - a) The man
 - b) The woman**
 - c) Neither of them

- 2) What does the man wish he had known?
 - a) She had a car
 - b) The cost of the train
 - c) The traffic would be bad**

- 3) What does the man wish he had done?
 - a) Cooked at home
 - b) Ordered vegetarian food
 - c) Chosen another restaurant**

- 4) What did the woman not know?
 - a) The man played golf**
 - b) He was a golf coach
 - c) The course was closed Sunday

Gap Fill: Listen to the audio. Type in the correct word!

Conversation 1

Man: What did you do last **nightnights**?

Woman: I went to dinner **towith** Bob.

Man: Oh, that sounds **funfunny**.

Woman: What did you do? Did you **workworked**?

Man: No, I just **staystayed** home. I didn't work last night.

Woman: Oh. Had I known that, I would've **invitedinvite** you.

Man: **MaybeMay** be next time.

Conversation 2

Man: The traffic is so **slowslower**.

Woman: Yeah, I know. We're going to be **laterlate** for the game.

Man: Yeah. Had I known it was going to be this bad, I would've **tooktaken** the train.

Woman: I know. It would've been much **fasterfast**.

Man: Oh well, nothing we can do now, but **hopinghope** for the best.

Woman: Yeah, fingers **crossedcross**.

Conversation 3

Man: So, what are you going to **orderordering**?

Woman: I'm not sure. I don't see any vegetarian **dishesdish**.

Man: You're **thea** vegetarian?

Woman: Yeah. I thought you **knownknew**.

Man: No. I had no **ideaideas**.

Woman: Yeah, I am. For 10 **yearsyear** now.

Man: Oh no. Had I known that, I would've **tooktaken** you somewhere else.

Woman: No worries. I'm used to it. I'm sure I'll **foundfind** something I can eat.

Conversation 4

Man: What did you **doesdo** on Saturday?

Woman: I played golf at the new **coursecourses** by the river.

Man: Oh, I love that course. I **triedtry** it last week.

Woman: I didn't know you **playingplayed** golf.

Man: Yeah. Ever **sincecents** I was a kid.

Woman: Oh. Had I known that, I would've **invitedinviting** you to play.

Man: Oh yeah? Well, no worries. I was busy on Sunday, **anywayanyhow**.

Woman: Well, still, I hope you can join us **thisnext** time.

Man: Thanks. I'd love **totoo**.

Corporate Terminology – Leadership

Cut to the Chase

Meaning: To get straight to the point.

Example: “The manager cut to the chase and asked the employee to explain the issue.”

The Man

Meaning: A person in power or authority.

Example: “The HR manager is the Man to take care of that issue.”

Light a Fire Under Someone

Meaning: To motivate someone to take action.

Example: “If you want to get this project done on time, you’ll need to light a fire under your team.”

Movers and Shakers

Meaning: People who have the power and influence to make things happen.

Example: “The conference was attended by many of the industry’s top movers and shakers.”