

If I had . . . If we went . . . , etc.

Dan likes fast cars, but he doesn't have one.
He doesn't have enough money.

If I had the money, . . .

If he **had** the money, he **would buy** a fast car.

Usually **had** is *past*, but in this sentence **had** is *not past*. If he **had** the money = if he had the money *now* (but he doesn't have it).



If	I	had/knew/lived/went (etc.) . . . ,	I	would(n't)	buy . . .
	you	didn't have / didn't know (etc.) . . . ,	you	could(n't)	be . . .
	it	were . . . ,	it		have . . .
	they, etc.	could . . . ,	they, etc.		go . . . , etc.

You can say:

- If he **had** the money, he would buy a car.
- or He would buy a car if he **had** the money.

I'd / she'd / they'd, etc. = I **would** / she **would** / they **would**, etc.:

- I don't know the answer. If I **knew** the answer, I'd **tell** you.
- It's raining, so we're not going out. We'd **get** wet if we **went** out.
- Jane lives in a city. She likes cities. She **wouldn't be** happy if she **lived** in the country.
- If you **didn't have** a job, what **would** you **do**? (but you *have* a job)
- I'm sorry I can't help you. I'd **help** you if I **could**. (but I *can't*)
- If we **had** a car, we **could** travel more. (but we *don't* have a car, so we *can't* travel much)

B

If (I) **was/were** . . .

You can say if I/he/she/it **was** or if I/he/she/it **were**:

- It's not a very nice place. I **wouldn't** go there if I **were** you. (or . . . if I **was** you)
- It would be nice if the **weather was** better. (or . . . if the **weather were** better)
- What would Tom do if he **were** here? (or . . . if he **was** here)



C

Compare:

if I have / if it is, etc.

- I want to go and see Helen.
If I **have** time, I **will go** today.
(= maybe I'll have time, so maybe I'll go)
- I like that jacket.
I'll **buy** it if it **isn't** too expensive.
(= maybe it will not be too expensive)
- I'll **help** you if I **can**. (= maybe I can help)

if I had / if it was, etc.

- I want to go and see Helen.
If I **had** time, I **would go** today.
(= I don't have time today, so I will not go)
- I like that jacket, but it's very expensive.
I'd **buy** it if it **wasn't** so expensive.
(= it is expensive, so I'm not going to buy it)
- I'd **help** you if I **could**, but I can't.

101.1 Complete the sentences.

1. I don't know the answer. If I knew the answer, I'd tell you.
2. I have a car. I couldn't travel very much if I didn't have a car.
3. I don't want to go out. If I _____ to go out, I'd go.
4. We don't have a key. If we _____ a key, we could get into the house.
5. I'm not hungry. I would have something to eat if I _____ hungry.
6. Sue enjoys her work. She wouldn't do it if she _____ it.
7. He can't speak any foreign languages. If he _____ speak a foreign language, maybe he would get a better job.
8. You don't try hard enough. If you _____ harder, you would have more success.
9. I have a lot to do today. If I _____ so much to do, we could go out.

101.2 Put the verb in the correct form.

1. If he had the money, he would buy a fast car. (he / have)
2. Jane likes living in a city. She wouldn't be happy if she lived in the country. (she / not / be)
3. If I wanted to learn Italian, _____ to Italy. (I / go)
4. I haven't told Helen what happened. She'd be angry if _____ . (she / know)
5. If _____ a map, I could show you where I live. (we / have)
6. What would you do if _____ a lot of money? (you / win)
7. It's not a very good hotel. _____ there if I were you. (I / not / stay)
8. If _____ closer to Miami, we would go there more often. (we / live)
9. I'm sorry you have to go now. _____ nice if you had more time. (it / be)
10. I'm not going to take the job. I'd take it if _____ better. (the salary / be)
11. I don't know anything about cars. If my car broke down, _____ what to do. (I / not / know)
12. If you could change one thing in the world, what _____ ? (you / change)

101.3 Complete the sentences. Use the following (with the verb in the correct form):

we (have) a bigger house	it (be) a little cheaper	I (watch) it
we (buy) a bigger house	every day (be) the same	I (be) bored
we (have) some pictures on the wall	the air (be) cleaner	

1. I'd buy that jacket if it was a little cheaper _____ .
2. If there was a good movie on TV tonight, _____ .
3. This room would be nicer if _____ .
4. If there wasn't so much traffic, _____ .
5. Life would be boring if _____ .
6. If I had nothing to do, _____ .
7. We could invite all our friends to stay if _____ .
8. If we had more money, _____ .

101.4 Complete the sentences. Use your own ideas.

1. I'd be happier if I had less work _____ .
2. If I could go anywhere in the world, _____ .
3. I wouldn't be very happy if _____ .
4. I'd buy _____ if _____ .
5. If I saw an accident in the street, _____ .
6. The world would be a better place if _____ .