



wait

await

 formal

expect

We use wait when we refer to letting time pass because we are expecting that something is going to happen.

+ for

- I've been waiting for the bus for twenty minutes.

Wait for sb/sth to do sth

- We're waiting for the rain to stop before we go out.
- He's waiting for me to make a mistake.

+ to infinitive

Hurry up! We're waiting to go.

To wait for or be waiting for something:

Await is a transitive verb and must have an object.

The object of 'await' is normally inanimate, not a person.

- He's anxiously awaiting his test results.
- Her latest novel is eagerly awaited.
- We are awaiting the committee's decision.

Something awaits someone

to be going to happen to somebody

- You never know what awaits you.
- Well, I wonder what surprises await us today.

We use expect to say that we believe that something will happen

+ to infinitive

- When we went to Siberia we were expecting it to be cold.
- We expect to move into our new flat next week.
- Gosh, I didn't expect to see you here!

+ that clause

- We expected that the guest house would have much better rooms.

+ object + to infinitive

- Analysts expect the company to announce growth of at least 5 per cent.