

I wish you **didn't** ...

We use wish to talk about things that we would like to be different in either the present or the past.

PRESENT

We can use wish/if only + a past form to talk about a present situation we would like to be different.

- I wish you didn't live so far away.
- If only we knew what to do.
- He wishes he could afford a holiday.

PAST

We can use wish/if only + a past perfect form to talk about something we would like to change about the past.

- They wish they hadn't eaten so much chocolate. They're feeling very sick now.
- If only I'd studied harder when I was at school.

I wish you **wouldn't** ...

EXPRESSING ANNOYANCE

We can use wish + would(n't) to show that we are annoyed with what someone or something does or doesn't do, We often feel that they are unlikely or unwilling to change.

- I wish you wouldn't borrow my clothes without asking.
- I wish it would rain. The garden really needs some water.
- She wishes he'd work less. They never spend any time together.

We can't use wish + would for a wish about ourselves.

- ~~I wish I would pass the exam.~~