



# Punctuation Rules

Punctuation marks are the road signs placed along the highway of our communication--to control speeds, provide directions, and prevent head-on collisions.

Punctuation Mark	How and when to used it	Examples
<p>A Period ( . )</p> 	Use a period at the end of a sentence that makes a statement.	I know that you love to help rescue dogs and cats in need.
<p>A Question Mark ( ? )</p>	Use at the end of a sentence or phrase to indicate a <b>direct question</b> .	What middle school will you be attending?
<p>An Exclamation Mark ( ! )</p>	Use after a sentence that expresses a strong emotion.	No way, not me!
<p>A comma ( , )</p> 	Use a comma before a <b>coordinator</b> ( <i>and, but, yet, or, nor, for, so</i> ) that links two main clauses.	You may be disappointed if you fail, but you are doomed if you don't try.
	Use a comma between words, phrases, or clauses that appear in a <b>series</b> of three or more.	For lunch today I had a delicious sandwich, bag of crunchy chips, chocolate cookie, and a drink.
	Use a pair of commas to set off words, phrases, or clauses that interrupt a sentence.	The cookie, <i>of course</i> , was the favorite part of my lunch.