

No and None

English Grammar (No-one - Nothing - Nowhere)

No and None - What's the difference?

- ★ The determiner **NO** means ~ not one; not any; not a – **NO** is used with a noun

- “The sign says **no** dogs allowed.”

(Not one dog/not any dog is allowed here. The noun dogs follows the determiner NO.)

- ★ The pronoun **NONE** means ~ not one of a group of people or things; not any – **NONE** is used without a noun

- “The donuts were gone when I got to work this morning.
There were **none** left.”

(Not one of the donuts was left. There is no noun following the pronoun NONE.)

<p>In Canada, there are no stores open on Christmas day.</p>   <p>I had toothpaste but no toothbrush!</p>	<p>The donuts were gone when I got to work this morning! There were none left.</p>   <p>There is a box of whiteboard markers but none of them work.</p>
---	--

None OF (something)


★ None is a pronoun so we don't use it with a noun. However, we can say none of something.

- “My brother has many sweaters. There are 6 sweaters in our closet and **none of them** are mine.”


★ After **none of** we can use plural countable nouns [*none of the stores*], a pronoun, [*none of them*] or uncountable nouns [*none of my furniture*].

- “I want to go to the mall on Christmas, but **none of the stores** are open.” - The word stores is plural.
- “There was a big earthquake in March, luckily **none of my furniture** was damaged.” - Furniture is an uncountable noun. Furniture has no plural form.

My brother has many sweaters.




There are 6 sweaters in our closet and **none** of them are mine.





There was a big earthquake in March, luckily **none** of my furniture was damaged.



Advanced grammar

None of my friends **is coming** or **are coming**?

➤ *This is a common discussion point, even among native speakers. I did some research and here is what I found.*

Quick answer - both versions are used. The definition of NONE has a plural and a singular form. **None can mean not one** (singular) and **none can mean not any** (plural).

Look at this grammar -

Not one of my friends is coming. – None of my friends is coming.

Not any of my friends are coming. – None of my friends are coming.

In this example, I prefer to use the pronoun NONE as a plural -
None of my friends are coming.

When I type ~ **None of my friends is coming** ~ into my computer, my grammar software wants to correct it.

I'm not saying this is correct! Some people feel that NONE is a contraction of NOT ONE so it should always be treated as singular. For me “None of my friends are coming.” is natural but **both uses are okay**.

OK!

How to use Nobody/no-one - Nothing - Nowhere

These words [Nobody/no-one - nothing - nowhere] can be used at the beginning of a sentence or you can use them by themselves as answers to questions. (Just like none.)

Please read the following examples:

★ “I knocked on the door but **no-one** answered. Maybe **nobody** was home.”

- *Not one person was at home.*

★ “I opened the store early today but **nobody** came until after 10:00.”

- *Not one person came to the store before 10:00.*

★ A: “What did you do yesterday?”

B: “**Nothing**. I was too tired.”

- *I didn't do anything.*

★ “Nothing is happening this weekend. Everyone is staying home because of the weather.”

- *Not a single thing is happening due to the quarantine.*

★ A: “Where will you go during the summer holiday?”

B: “**Nowhere**. I will stay home and save money.”

- *I will not go anywhere.*

★ “This road goes nowhere.”

- *This road doesn't go anywhere.*

Look at these examples:

★ “I saw nothing.”

- *NOT ~~I didn't see nothing.~~*

★ “I may change jobs this summer but I need to keep it a secret. No-one can know.”

- *NOT ~~No-one can't know.~~*

