

## THE PRESENT TENSE (SADAŠNJE VREME) The Serbian present tense of **-im** Verbs

Here is the list of endings for the **-im** verb class

**Table 1: The Present Tense Endings of -im Verbs**

	SINGULAR	PLURAL
First person	<b>-im</b>	<b>-imo</b>
Second person	<b>-iš</b>	<b>-ite</b>
Third person	<b>-i</b>	<b>-e</b>

- 1) The majority of the verbs (over 6,000) in this class are formed from the infinitive verbs which end in **-iti**.

**Table 2. Examples of -im verbs derived from the infinitive in -iti**

<b>infinitive</b>	moliti 'ask, pray'	govoriti 'to speak'	ljubiti 'to kiss'
<b>present stem</b>	<b>mol-</b>	<b>govor-</b>	<b>ljub-</b>
<b>example</b>	<b>molim</b> 'I ask/pray'	<b>govorim</b> 'I speak'	<b>ljubim</b> 'I kiss'

Click here to see a more comprehensive list of **-im** verbs derived from the infinitive **-iti**.

- 2) A smaller group of **-im** verbs (a few hundreds) is made from the infinitival verbs that end in **-eti**.

**Table 3. Examples of -im verbs derived from the infinitive in -eti**

<b>infinitive</b>	videti 'see'	mrzeti 'hate'.	želeti 'desire, wish'
<b>present stem</b>	<b>vid-</b>	<b>mrz-</b>	<b>žel-</b>
<b>example</b>	<b>vidim</b> 'I see'	<b>mrzim</b> 'I hate'	<b>želim</b> 'I desire, wish'

Click here to see a more comprehensive list of **-im** verbs derived from the infinitive **-eti**.

- 3) The **-im** class is also formed from the infinitives that end a **-ati**. Generally, such infinitive have a palatal sound, such as: **š, č, ž, j, đ** preceding **-ati**.

**Table 4. Examples of -im verbs derived from the infinitive in -ati**

<b>infinitive</b>	držati 'hold'	trčati 'run'.	vrištati 'scream'
<b>present stem</b>	<b>drž-</b>	<b>trč-</b>	<b>vrišt-</b>
<b>example</b>	<b>držim</b> 'I hold'	<b>trčim</b> 'I run'	<b>vrištim</b> 'I scream'

Click here to see a more comprehensive list of **-im** verbs derived from the infinitive **-ati**.

**To summarize:** If you see an infinitive verb in **-iti** in the dictionary, you may assume it forms its present tense using the **-im** conjugation. For exceptions, see below.

Some examples of –im verbs:

**Table 5: Examples of present tense of -im verbs in –iti, -eti and -ati**

<b>-iti infinitive</b>	<b>-eti infinitive</b>	<b>-ati infinitive</b>
<b>Govoriti</b> (to speak)	<b>Videti</b> (to see)	<b>Trčati</b> (to run)
Govor- <b>im</b> (I speak)	Vid- <b>im</b> (I see)	Trč- <b>im</b> (I run)
Govor- <b>iš</b> (you speak)	Vid- <b>iš</b> (you see)	Trč- <b>iš</b> (you run)
Govor- <b>i</b> (he/she/it speak)	Vid- <b>i</b> (he/she/it see)	Trč- <b>i</b> (he/she/it run)
Govor- <b>imo</b> (we speak)	Vid- <b>imo</b> (we see)	Trč- <b>imo</b> (we run)
Govor- <b>ite</b> (you speak)	Vid- <b>ite</b> (you see)	Trč- <b>ite</b> (you run)
Govor- <b>e</b> (they speak)	Vid- <b>e</b> (they see)	Trč- <b>e</b> (they run)

And here are some more examples of verbs in this class –fully conjugated for you.

**Table 6: Present tense verb forms for -im verbs**

<b>English</b>	<b>Infinitive</b>	<b>Present – for all persons – singular first line, plural –second line</b>	<b>Verb class</b>
ask for	tražiti	tražim, tražiš, traži tražimo, tražite, traže	-im
beg, pray	moliti	molim, moliš, moli molimo, molite, mole	-im
work	raditi	radim, radiš, radi radimo, radite, rade	-im
bring	doneti	donosim, donosiš, donosi donosimo, donosite, donose	-im
learn	učiti	učim, učiš, uči učimo, učite, uče	-im
desire	želeti	želim, želiš, želi želimo, želite, žele	-im
love	voleti	volim, voliš, voli volimo, volite, vole	-im
say	govoriti	govorim, govoriš, govori govorimo, govorate, govore	-im
come	doći	dolazim, dolaziš, dolazi dolazimo, dolazite, dolaze	-im
see	videti	vidim, vidiš, vidi vidimo, vidite, vide	-im