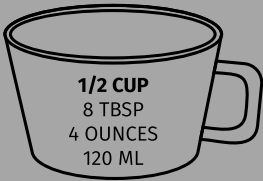


ENOUGH & PLENTY

When to use one or the other.



We use both of these words to talk about the quantities of things. 'Enough' is usually used to say 'a sufficient quantity' and 'Plenty' is usually used to say 'more than a sufficient quantity'. Have a look at the examples below before studying the grammar.

Some examples:

Mary: "OK, so there are 6 of us for dinner this evening, is that ok?"

John: "Yes, we've got plenty of chairs!"



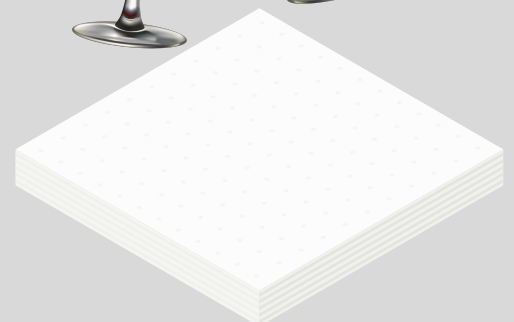
John: "Are you making a cake for dessert?"

Mary: "I can't, I don't have enough eggs. I'll get some ice-cream on the way!"

Mary: "Would you like me to get some wine, too?"

John: "No, thanks Mary, I've got plenty of wine! Could you get some paper napkins, though? I don't think I have enough for everyone."

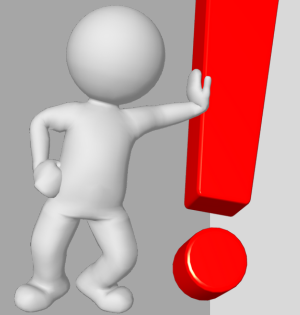
Mary: "Oh, I have plenty. I'll bring some with me."



The Grammar

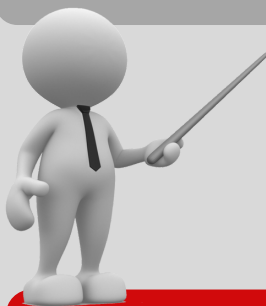
Enough is used as a determiner before a noun to show that a sufficient amount of that thing exists. We can use enough in positive and negative sentence:

- Do we have enough chairs for the dinner party?
- I don't have enough eggs to make a cake
- I have enough wine, but I don't have enough napkins.



Enough can also be used as a pronoun:

- No more ice-cream for me. I've had enough!
- The table is ready and the food is cooking, that's enough for the moment. Let's relax for half an hour.
- Wow John, lasagne! My favourite, I can never get enough!



Plenty is used as a quantifier & a pronoun, and means a large or sufficient quantity of something exists. We use plenty of + noun, or just plenty. We don't usually use plenty in negative sentences.

- We have plenty of wine for the party.
- I have plenty of napkins, I'll bring some over.
- I'm happy you like my lasagne, Frank. Have some more if you want, there's plenty.

ENOUGH & PLENTY

PRACTICE

Complete the following sentences using ENOUGH or PLENTY / PLENTY OF

1. We need to get some petrol, we don't have _____ to get to Rome.
2. We don't need to leave yet, we still have _____ time.
3. I think we have _____ glasses, but can you count them again?
4. Would you like some more? - No thanks, I've had _____.
5. Let's go Grafton street, there are _____ shops there.
6. Do we have _____ money to get two tickets, or should I go find a bank machine?
7. I have _____ work to keep me busy all week!
8. I couldn't finish the report today, I didn't have _____ time.
9. These apples are delicious! Take some, I've got _____.
10. I have _____ experience to know when to ask for help.
11. That is a great idea, there are _____ people who would be interested in it.
12. Do you think we have _____ time to have a coffee with Maria before we leave?
13. There are _____ reasons why you should visit Ireland!
14. Another politician telling lies, don't they know we've had _____?
15. I'm going to get some bread, I don't think we have _____.

ANSWERS

Below, you can find the answers to the questions on the previous page.

1. We need to get some petrol, we don't have enough to get to Rome.
2. We don't need to leave yet, we still have plenty of time.
3. I think we have enough glasses, but can you count them again?
4. Would you like some more? – No thanks, I've had enough.
5. Let's go Grafton street, there are plenty of shops there.
6. Do we have enough money to get two tickets, or should I go find a bank machine?
7. I have enough work to keep me busy all week!
8. I couldn't finish the report today, I didn't have enough time.
9. These apples are delicious! Take some, I've got plenty.
10. I have enough experience to know when to ask for help.
11. That is a great idea, there are plenty of people who would be interested in it.
12. Do you think we have enough time to have a coffee with Maria before we leave?
13. There are plenty of reasons why you should visit Ireland!
14. Another politician telling lies, don't they know we've had enough?
15. I'm going to get some bread, I don't think we have enough.