

Unit 43

Passive (2) (present and past tenses)

These are the passive forms of the present and past tenses:

Present simple am/is/are + done/cleaned etc.

Active: Somebody **cleans** this room every day.

Passive: This room **is cleaned** every day.

Many accidents **are caused** by dangerous driving.

I'm **not** often **invited** to parties.

How many people **are injured** in road accidents every day?

Past simple was/were + done/cleaned etc.

Active: Somebody **cleaned** this room yesterday.

During the night we **were** all **woken** up by a loud explosion.

When **was** that castle **built**?

The house **wasn't** **damaged** in the storm but a tree **was** **blown** down.

Present continuous am/is/are being + done/cleaned etc.

Active: Somebody **is cleaning** the room at the moment.

Passive: The room **is being cleaned** at the moment.

Look at those old houses! They **are being** **knocked** down.

(shop assistant to customer) **Are** you **being** **served**, madam?

Past continuous was/were being + done/cleaned etc.

Active: Somebody **was cleaning** the room when I arrived.

Passive: The room **was being** **cleaned** when I arrived.

Suddenly I heard footsteps behind me. We **were** **being** **followed**.

Present perfect have/has been + done/cleaned etc.

Active: The room looks nice. Somebody **has cleaned** it.

Passive: The room looks nice. It **has been** **cleaned**.

Have you heard the news? The president **has been** **shot**.

Have you ever **been** **bitten** by a dog?

I'm not going to the party. I **haven't** **been** **invited**.

Past perfect had been + done/cleaned etc.

Active: The room looked much better. Somebody **had cleaned** it.

Passive: The room looked much better. It **had been** **cleaned**.

Jim didn't know about the change of plans. He **hadn't** **been** **told**.

Past continuous was/were being + done/cleaned etc.