Welcome to Grammar Bites

What's it for? It's for/to ⭐⭐⭐

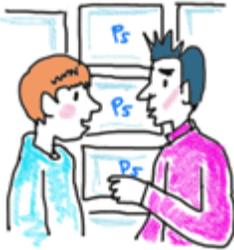(⭐ = Basic ⭐⭐ = Intermediate ⭐⭐⭐ = Advanced)

Grammar Bite
(read this)

For definitions of words in CAPITALS, go to grammarbites.co.uk/definitions

Worksheet
(do this)

With *for* and *to*, we distinguish between General and Specific

1 General (*for* + -ing)

What's Photoshop for?
(What's Photoshop used for?)

It's for editing photos and drawings
("for" + -ing)

2 Specific (*to* + base form of verb)

Why do you want Photoshop?

I need it to re-size these photos
("to" + base form)

More examples:
What's this serrated knife for?   *Why do you want this serrated knife?*

*It's **for** cutt**ing** bread.*   ***To** cut the bread.*

3 General and specific (*for* + noun)
*I've got some sandwiches **for lunch**.*
*I bought a collar **for the dog**.*

Fill each blank with *to* or *for*, and put in the correct form of the verb in brackets (base form or –ing form):

1 What do you want that file of bank statements for? I want to look at it _____ (check) the list of monthly payments.

2 What is that heart-shaped tin for? It's _____ (make) heart-shaped cakes.

3 What are those white tiles for? They're _____ (tile) bathroom walls.

4 Why do you want 100 white tiles? _____ (tile) my bathroom, of course!

5 What's the saw for? I want it _____ (cut) up some wood for the fire.

(Two of these don't have verbs)

6 I bought some cake _____ our tea.

7 I brought a knife _____ (cut) the tape with.

8 "Look at this!" "What is it?" "It's _____ (grate) cheese."

9 Who's that for? It's _____ Adriana.

10 "You need a brush _____ (clean) those dirty shoes!"

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