

The irregular verb avoir (to have)

J'ai → I have

Tu as → You have *Informal

Il/Elle/On a → He/She/One/It has

Nous avons → We have

Vous avez → You have *Formal

Ils/Elles ont → They have

Like être, this verb is frequently used and must be memorized

Avoir can be used to talk about physical traits, as well as things we have (ownership)

J'ai les cheveux noirs.

Alain a deux petites sœurs.

Nous avons la pizza à la cafétéria.

Avoir is also used for various expressions in French. Here, translation will not help, as most of the expressions translate to être.

Avoir chaud - to feel hot/warm

Avoir froid - to feel cool/cold

Avoir faim - to have hunger

Avoir soif - to have thirst

Avoir raison - to be correct

Avoir tort - to be wrong

Avoir de la chance - to have luck

Avoir ... ans - to be ... years old

Avoir mal - to be hurt/to feel pain

Avoir lieu - to take place

Avoir peur - to be scared