

The Future forms:

There are lots of ways of expressing future concepts in English, for example "want to", "would like to", "hope to", "expect to", "wish to", "aim to", "plan to", "intend to" and so on. Please note that they are usually followed by the infinitive (to meet), except "I'm looking forward to" which is followed by the gerund "ing" = "I'm looking forward to meeting you".

There are 3 main future tenses:

1. The Present Continuous

- used for stating scheduled arrangements
"I'm flying to London this afternoon at 2 pm."

2. "going to"

- used to state intentions and pre-arranged plans

"I'm going to visit Buckingham Palace and the Tower of London."

- used to make strong predictions

"I don't think the weather is going to be nice in London but I'm sure I'm going to enjoy it anyway."

(N.B. It's more common in formal English to say "I intend to", "I plan/I'm planning to".

3. "will"

- used to make new plans/arrangements

"I'll tell you about my trip afterwards."

- used to speculate about the future

"If I don't enjoy my trip, I don't think I'll go to England again."