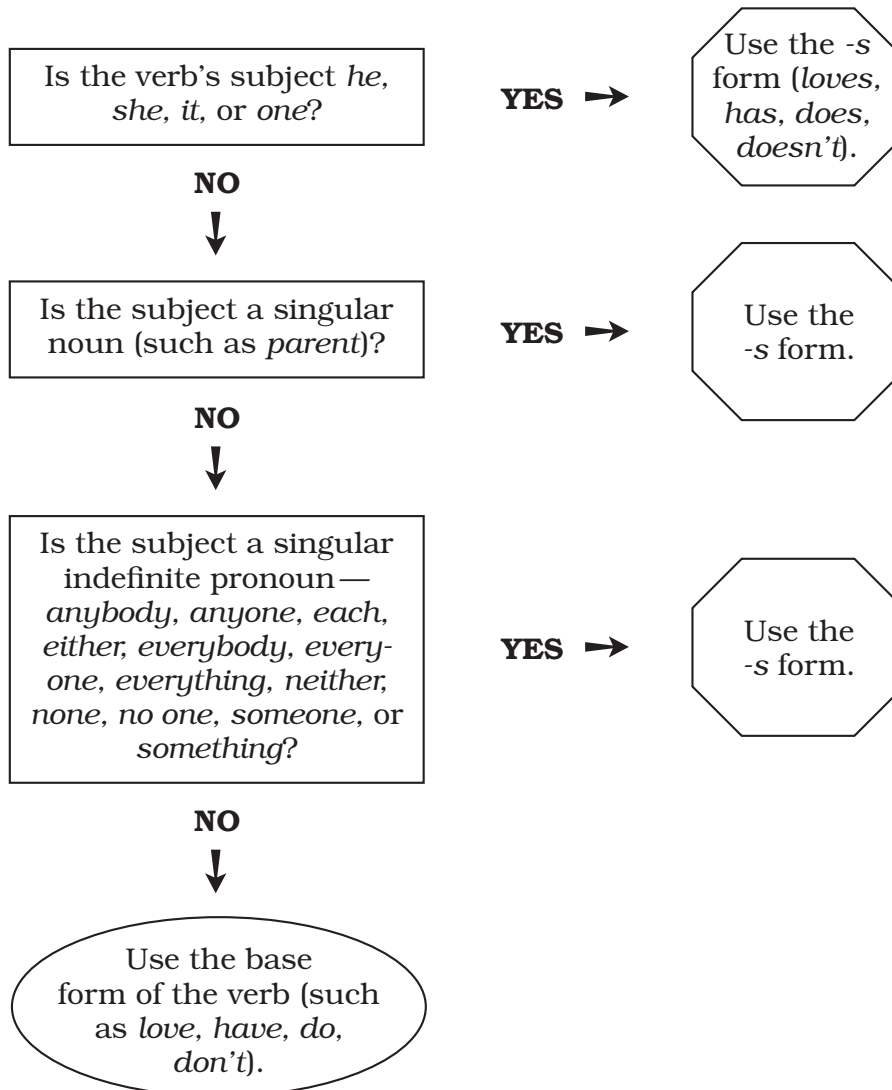


## When to use the -s (or -es) form of a present-tense verb



**EXCEPTION:** Choosing the correct present-tense form of *be* (*am, is, or are*) is not quite so simple. See the chart on the previous page for both present- and past-tense forms of *be*.

**ESL CAUTION:** Do not use the -s form of a verb that follows a helping verb such as *can, must, or should*.