

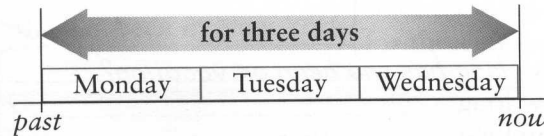
A

for and since

We use for and since to say *how long*.

- Rachel is in Brazil. She **has been there** } for three days.  
since Monday.

We use **for** + a period of time (three days / two years, etc.).

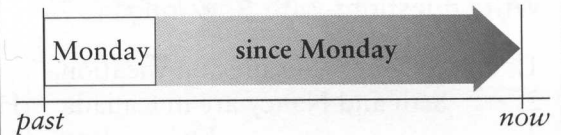


for

three days	ten minutes
an hour	two hours
a week	four weeks
a month	six months
five years	a long time

- Richard has been in Canada **for six months**. (*not* since six months)
- We've been waiting **for two hours**. (*not* since two hours)
- I've lived in Chicago **for a long time**.

We use **since** + the start of the period (Monday / 9 o'clock, etc.).



since

Monday	Wednesday
9 o'clock	12:30
July 4th	my birthday
January	I was ten years old
1995	we arrived

- Richard has been in Canada **since January**. (= from January to now)
- We've been waiting **since 9 o'clock**. (= from 9 o'clock to now)
- I've lived in Chicago **since I was ten years old**.

B

ago

ago = before now

- Ji Yoo started her new job **three weeks ago**. (= three weeks before now)
- "When did Tom go out?" "Ten minutes ago." (= ten minutes before now)
- I had dinner **an hour ago**.
- Life was very different **a hundred years ago**.

We use ago with the *past* (started/did/had/was, etc.).

Compare ago and for:

- **When did Rachel arrive in Brazil?**  
She **arrived in Brazil three days ago**.
- **How long has she been in Brazil?**  
She **has been in Brazil for three days**.