

## Subordinating Conjunctions

A subordinating conjunction joins a subordinate clause to an independent clause. The most common subordinating conjunctions follow.

<b>after</b>	<b>how</b>	<b>till</b>
<b>although</b>	<b>if</b>	<b>unless</b>
<b>as</b>	<b>inasmuch</b>	<b>until</b>
<b>as if</b>	<b>in order that</b>	<b>when</b>
<b>as long as</b>	<b>lest</b>	<b>whenever</b>
<b>as much as</b>	<b>now that</b>	<b>where</b>
<b>as soon as</b>	<b>provided (that)</b>	<b>wherever</b>
<b>as though</b>	<b>since</b>	<b>while</b>
<b>because</b>	<b>so that</b>	
<b>before</b>	<b>than</b>	
<b>even if</b>	<b>that</b>	
<b>even though</b>	<b>though</b>	

A sentence with a subordinate clause and an independent clause is called a complex sentence. The trick to punctuating complex sentences is to first recognize the subordinating conjunction. Then, if the subordinate clause comes first, put a comma between it and the main clause. If it comes last, don't use a comma. (This is why we hardly ever need a comma next to the subordinating conjunction "because.")

<b>If</b> it rains	,	I get wet.
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I get wet (no comma) **if** it rains.

<b>Because</b> you're mine	,	I walk the line.
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I walk the line (no comma) **because** you're mine.