

## How to say JUST in italian

How do I say "**JUST**" in Italian?

As in "I'm just going to the shops" or "I just wanna give you a hug"?

Depending on the meaning we are looking for, we can translate the English "Just" in mainly two ways.

With the meaning of "*only this, nothing else*"

▷ **SOLO**

▷ **SOLTANTO**

▷ **SOLAMENTE**

▷ **GIUSTO**

**Solo**, **solamente** and **soltanto** are basically interchangeable. **Giusto** can also be used, but it tends to sound more casual and conversational.

### ▷ **SOME EXAMPLES:**

*Vado solo al bar*

I am just going to the bar (that's basically all i'm doing)

*Vado solamente al bar e torno*

I'm just going to the bar (and i'll be back soon)

*Vado soltanto al bar e torno*

I'm just going to the bar (and i'll be back soon)

## ASK MANU ITALIANO

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*Vado giusto al bar e torno*

I'm just going to the bar (and i'll be back soon) - slightly more colloquial

*Voglio solo darti un abbraccio*

I just want to give you a hug

*Voglio giusto darti un abbraccio*

I just want to give you a hug – slightly more colloquial

*Ti ho portato giusto un pensierino*

I've just brought you a little something (as a present) - Here "just" means "only".

### ▷ **BUT**

A completely different meaning of the English "Just" can be found when we speak in the past.

When what we are trying to say is that "we've *just done something*" we mean that it just happened. As in... not long ago.

When you mean this, in Italian we use a totally different word.

With the meaning of "*only this, nothing else*" **APPENA**

Always used in the past tense with this meaning.

### ▷ SOME EXAMPLES:

*Ho appena comprato un macchina*

I've just bought a car (as in, not long ago)

*Ti ho appena visto*

I've just seen you (as in, just now, not long ago)

*I miei mi hanno appena regalato un libro bellissimo*

My parents have just given me a great book as a present

*Avete appena pagato?*

Have you just paid?

*Quando sono nato, mia sorella aveva appena iniziato scuola*

When i was born, my sister had just started school

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## ▷ EXERCISE

Translate the first group of sentences into Italian and the second group into English.

1. I just want an ice cream.

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2. You just have to be patient.

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3. We've just eaten a huge cake!

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4. I am just very tired...

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5. Ho solo preso un caffè

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6. Ho appena preso un caffè

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7. Abbiamo soltanto una macchina in famiglia

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8. Loro bevono giusto un bicchiere di birra e poi vanno a casa

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## ASK MANU ITALIANO

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### ▷ ANSWERS

1. Voglio solo un gelato / Voglio soltanto un gelato / Voglio giusto un gelato
2. Devi solo essere paziente / Devi solamente essere paziente
3. Abbiamo appena mangiato una torta enorme!
4. Sono solo molto stanco / Sono solamente molto stanco
5. I've only had a coffee
6. I've just had a coffee
7. We only have one car in the family
8. They're only drinking a glass of beer and then they'll go home

### ▷ YOUR NOTES