

文法

ほうがいい

had better do (something)

やす

休んだほうがいい。

yasunda hou ga ii

It would be better to rest.

Construction

(Informal Past Verb) + ほうがいい

Usage

Use this form when giving advice or to suggest a course of action.

例文

ね

やす

あまり寝ていないなら、休んだほうがいいですよ。

amari neteinai nara, yasunda hou ga ii desu yo.

If you didn't sleep well, it would be better to rest.

[あまり means 'not very' and always ends with a negative: あまり寝ていない]

い まえ た

行く前に、食べたほうがいい。

iku mae ni tabeta hou ga ii.

Before leaving, it would be best to eat something.

べんきょう

もっとちゃんと勉強したほうがいいでしょう。

motto chanto benkyou shita hou ga ii deshou.

You should study harder.

[To use with する verbs such as 勉強, use the Informal Past した.]

文法

neg + ほうがいい
had better not do (something)

やす
休まないほうがいい。
yasumanai hou ga ii
It would be better to not rest.

Construction

(Informal Negative Verb) + ほうがいい

Usage

Note: This does NOT use the past form of the verb. Use this to suggest not doing something.

例文

最近食べすぎなので、ケーキは食べないほうがいい。

Saikin tabesugi node, ke-ki wa tabenai hou ga ii.

Since you've eaten too much recently, it would be better to not eat that cake.

高級な車は買わないほうがいい。

Koukyuu na kuruma wa kawanai hou ga ii.

It would be best to not buy an expensive car.

健康のためにタバコは吸わないほうがいい。

kenkou no tame ni tabako wa suwanai hou ga ii.

For the your health's sake, you shouldn't smoke cigarettes.