Make and Do!

It can be hard to decide when to use 'make' or 'do' in English.

We use **'make'** when we create, construct or produce something. For example:
>*She made a cake.*
>*I've made us some coffee.*
>*Did you really make those trousers?*

We also use '**make'** when it means to force someone to do something – to give instructions, compel someone:

>*The officer made the soldiers march for several hours.*
>*The teacher made us do an exam.*
>*The police made the thief answer the questions.*

We use **'do'** for general activities. In this case, **'do'** is often used with 'something', 'nothing', 'anything' or 'everything':

>*What did you do at the weekend?*
>*I didn't do anything yesterday.*
>*She's fed up with doing everything herself. She needs some help.*
>*Are you doing anything interesting during the holidays?*

We also use **do** when the subject is work:

>*His housekeeper does the cleaning in the afternoon.*
>*My father usually does the cooking at the weekends.*

NOTE: 'What do you do?' means 'what's your job?'

There are also many, many fixed expressions with 'make' and 'do'. Unfortunately, they don't really follow any useful rules, so you have to learn them. Sorry! Here are just a few examples:

Make:	Do:
a mistake	your best
an excuse	someone a favour
a profit	badly
money	your duty
a noise	an exam
a suggestion	a course
an exception	exercise
arrangements	business
a decision	a crossword
a complaint	30mph in a car