

## should

*Good idea, expectation*

You **should** eat more sensibly to stay healthy



## ought to

*Formal, and serious*

You **ought to** finish this on time if you want a promotion.

## had better

*Strong and negative*

You'd **better** run faster than my bullets.

## could

*Polite and tentative*

You **could** try a different approach to solve this.



## should not

*Good idea, expectation*

You **shouldn't** smoke so much, try to stop it.

## ought not to

*Formal, and serious*

You **ought not to** be late for your job interview.

## had better not

*Strong and negative*

You'd **better not** forget what you promised me young man!

Think of 'had better' as a mama threatening their naughty child

