

Hey Mama, When Do You Use A Comma

by Kathleen Wiley

CHORUS

Hey Momma, when do you use a comma?
Hey Momma, when do you use a comma?
Hey Momma, when do you use a comma?

Well, dear, you use it in a series.... Words in a series are in linear list
They're separated by commas, well, that is
Except the last 2 where you'll show that you're a comma whiz
You'll never put a comma where an **and** or **or** is....

I bought a hat, comma, a coat, comma, a shirt, comma, some shoes, comma some books and then a watch.
I bought a towel, comma, a shovel, comma, a bucket, comma , some lotion, comma,
an innertube and cap.

I want a dog, comma, a cat, comma, a bird, comma, a fish comma, a camel or a bat.

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To separate the day or month or year.

June 12, comma, 1988, `March 4th, comma 1848, `May 6th, comma 1709, June 5 th, comma 2005
Tuesday, comma, May 12, comma, 1985, Monday, comma, April 6, comma, 1999
Friday, comma, June 9, comma, 1898, Sunday, comma, March 3, comma, 1988

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To separate a city and a state.... Salt Lake City, comma. Utah, Little Rock, comma, Arkansas
Seattle, comma Washington, Miami, comma, Florida

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Well, dear, you use it in direct address.... Sue, comma, put that over there....

John, comma, you gave me a scare!! Ann, comma, please take your seat.

Bill, comma, this book can't be beat!!

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Well, dear, you use it in appositives John, comma, my brother, comma , came home today.

Sue, comma, my aunt, comma, wants her driveway paved.

Bill, comma, my brother, comma, tried to start the car.

Ann, comma, my sister comma, wants to know where you are.

There're other places...like introductory phrases

Introductory words and sometimes in quotations....

After dependent clauses, and in compound sentences

In letter greetings and in closings.

So in your writing.... when you decide to use a comma,

You'll remember.... because you listened to your momma

You'll follow the rules.... You won't abuse a comma.....

You'll use commas only where the rules say...!!!!