

Using know

Know cannot be followed directly by an infinitive. Instead we use the structure know how to.

He knows how to operate a computer.

She knows how to make pizza.

He knows how to play the piano.

Do you know how to make Spanish omelettes?

Know is one of those verbs which cannot be usually used in continuous forms.

I know what you mean. (NOT I am knowing what you mean.)

Know can be used in the present perfect tense form.

I have known her for a long time.

We have known each other since our childhood.

Know can be followed by an object + infinitive in a very formal style.

I knew him to be a generous guy.

In a less formal and more natural style, we use a that-clause.

I knew that he was a generous guy.

I always knew that I couldn't depend upon him.

Expressions with know

Know one's own mind: be certain of one's purpose, ideas etc.

Know what's what: have common sense, good judgment, practical experience etc.

In the know: having information not shared by all

Those in the know don't do things like that.

To the best of my knowledge: As far as I know

The information that I have given is true to the best of my knowledge.