



Using Would Have

First of all, let's talk about the pronunciation

Would have is usually contracted as **would've**. We say *wooh-duh*

- I *wooh-duh* done it... I *wooh-duh* gone... I *wooh-duh* tried.

Using Would Have

I would have means, you wanted to do something, but you were not able to do it. We often use

I would have with **but**: **I would have** blah blah blah, **but** blah blah blah. For example:

1. I **would have** called you, but I was busy at work.
2. I **would have** gone to the beach, but it started raining.
3. I **would have** helped you move. Why didn't you let me know you needed help?
4. Complete this sentence: **I would have** _____ yesterday, but _____ .

You can also use **I would have** when you find out about something that was possible to do, but you didn't know about it at the time. So, you didn't do it. The nuance is an unstated condition. If I had known about that, **I would have done** it. Quite often in conversational English, the IF clause is unstated.

1. I didn't know they offer free dessert at this restaurant. **I would have** ordered something.
2. There was a free concert in the park? I was free last night. **I would have** gone.
3. I can't believe I missed that comedy special. **I would have** watched it!
4. There was a free hip-hop concert in the park last night. **Would you or would you not have** gone to it?

We also use the phrase, **I would like to have** when we want to show regret or disappointment that we didn't do something.

1. **I would like to have** seen that movie in the theater, but I missed my chance.
2. Jenny is a nice girl. **I would like to have** gotten to know her better before she moved to Miami.
3. That was an interesting lecture. **I would like to have** asked the speaker a few questions though.
4. Is there anything you **would like to have** done this past week?

We use **I would rather have** to show that we are not happy with the choice we made. **I would rather have** means you wish you had done something different.

1. The pasta was good last night, but **I would rather have** had sushi.



2. My wife enjoyed the musical, but **I would rather have** gone to a jazz club.
3. That bargain sale at the department store wasn't so good. **I would rather have** stayed home.
4. Think about what you ate yesterday. Would **you rather have** eaten anything else?

We use **I never would have guessed (that)** followed by a sentence to mean, **I'm surprised that** ~

1. I saw Greg at the opera last week. **I never would have guessed (that)** he likes that kind of music.
2. You're eating green curry? **I never would have guessed** you like spicy food like that.
3. I was surprised when Danny started singing at karaoke. **I never would have guessed** he had a such a great singing voice.
4. Can you think of an example using, "**I never would have guessed**"?

Extra notes:

If I had had more time, I would have called her.

If I **had seen** you, I **would have said** hello.

If I had eaten that chili, I would have gotten / had a stomachache.

Had + PP would have PP