Have got (have/has + got) is used to talk mainly about possessions or personal attributes.

Remember to watch the video first! Then read the conversation between Sophie and Pim, a Thai teenager she met when she went to Bangkok. Sophie’s helping Pim prepare for an English exam.

Sophie: Have got (have/has + got) is used to talk mainly about possessions or personal attributes.

Pim: I’ve got a new computer.
    They haven’t got any red chilli peppers.
    She’s got long, brown hair.
    He hasn’t got many friends.

Sophie: So the negative is have/has + not + got?

Pim: Yes, but don’t forget the contraction.
    Daisy hasn’t got her books yet.
    You haven’t got 50p, have you?

Sophie: Is has got only used for things?

Pim: No, it’s also used for timetabled events or illnesses.
    I’ve got swimming practice at seven.
    Fred’s got a terrible cold.

Sophie: You can use have got for abstract things too.
    I’ve got an idea for the weekend.
    I’ve got all the inspiration I need.... up here!

Pim: Can I use have got in the past? For example: I had got a racing bicycle when I was younger.
You have/has + subject + got.

Have you got everything you need?
Have we got any red chilli peppers at home?
Have you got a minute?

In British English we use have got more in speaking and have more in writing – it's a little more formal.

I had a racing bicycle.

You use have got + subject + got.

Have you got everything you need?
Have we got any red chilli peppers at home?
Have you got a minute?

Yes, have got is more used in British English and have is more American. The question and negative form is different with have – you need to use the auxiliary do/does.

I have two sisters. (American English)
Do you have change for ten dollars? (American English)
He doesn't have a clue about soccer. (American English)

You will hear British people use have as well as have got.

What about the question form?

Hang on a minute, I've heard Do you have…? a lot too.

Yes, have got is more used in British English and have is more American. The question and negative form is different with have – you need to use the auxiliary do/does.

I have two sisters. (American English)
Do you have change for ten dollars? (American English)
He doesn't have a clue about soccer. (American English)

You will hear British people use have as well as have got.

Anything else I should know?

In British English we use have got more in speaking and have more in writing – it's a little more formal.

OK, I've got it now!

Very clever! Yes, you can also use have got to mean 'understand'.

Watch the video here: http://bit.ly/1i3VxT