Future tense cheat sheet

Tense		Use	Examples
Simple future	Past Present Future	Refers to a specific time or event in the future.	The sun will expand into a red giant. Obama is not going to win the election. Will you travel the world, if you win the lottery? Are you going to have children?
Future progressive	Past Present Future	An ongoing action that will occur in the future.	Mum will be waiting. Mum is going to be waiting for me.
	Past Present Future	May be interrupted by a specific event. Two or more actions may occur at the same time.	Mum will be waiting for me when my plane arrives. I'll still be teaching when the news is on TV tonight. He probably isn't going to be sleeping at 10am. She'll be studying and he'll be making dinner. I am going to be listening to music and cleaning the house.
Future perfect	Past Present Future	An experience or action that will be completed before some time-point in the future.	He will have completed the project by Friday. They are going to have learnt a few new words before their lesson. I will have travelled to all countries in Europe after my next trip.
	Past Present Future	* Emphasizes interrupted actions	By the time she is 30, she will have moved 20 times. By the age of 5, the child will have learnt to read by himself.
Future perfect progressive	Past Present Future	To show something will continue up until a particular event or time. To show cause and effect in the future.	They will have been working for an hour by the time I <u>arrive</u> . Jack will have been teaching for over 3 years when he <u>leaves</u> for Korea. How long will you have been studying when you <u>graduate</u> ?
		"will have been doing" and "be going to have been doing" are identical	You will be tired by the time you get home because you will have been running for 2 hours! His English will be perfect this time next year, because he will have been
		* Emphasizes a duration before a future event	attending so many classes.

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Be careful with time clauses

- ♦ While they are reading, the teacher will correct assignments.
- ♦ Before I eat dinner, I will clean the house.
- ♦ I am going to get dinner when I have finished my homework.
 - → Don't use future tense in sentence clauses that begin with time expressions: while, when, before, after, by the time, as soon as, if, unless, ...