MUSTN'T vs. DON'T HAVE TO

BE CAREFUL: There is a difference in meaning between MUSTN'T and DON'T HAVE TO.

Mustn't

MEANING

- > Its is prohibited; it is not allowed.
- > It is important that you do **NOT** do something.
- You MUST NOT drink that.
 - = It is forbidden to drink that.
 - = Don't drink that, it is not allowed.
- You MUSTN'T tell John.
 - = Do **NOT** tell John.
 - = You are not allowed to tell John.

Don't have to

MEANING

- > There is no obligation; you are not required to do something, especially if you don't want to.
- You DON'T HAVE TO drink that.
 You don't need to drink that but you can if you want to.
- You DON'T HAVE TO tell John.
 You can tell John if you want to but it is not necessary.