

Pronunciation of Verbs Ending in *-s* and *-es*

1. If the base form of the verb or noun ends with the sound /s/, /z/, /ʃ/, /ʒ/, /tʃ/, /dʒ/, or /ks/, then pronounce *-es* as an extra syllable /ɪz/.

slice — slices watch — watches
lose — loses judge — judges
wash — washes relax — relaxes

2. If the base form ends with the voiceless sound /p/, /t/, /k/, /f/, or /θ/, then pronounce *-s* and *-es* as /s/.

sleep — sleeps work — works
hit — hits laugh — laughs

3. If the base form ends with any other consonant or with a vowel sound, then pronounce *-s* and *-es* as /z/.

learn — learns
go — goes