

Regular Verbs: Simple Past and Past Participle Forms

Spelling Rules

- To form the simple past and past participle of most regular verbs, add *-ed* to the base form.
brush — brushed play — played
- If the base form ends with *e*, just add *-d*.
close — closed live — lived
- If the base form ends with a consonant + *y*, change the *y* to *i* and add *-ed*.
(Compare vowel + *y*: play — played; enjoy — enjoyed.)
study — studied dry — dried
- If the base form of a one-syllable verb ends with a single vowel + consonant, double the final consonant and add *-ed*.
plan — planned shop — shopped
- If the base form of a verb with two or more syllables ends in a single vowel + consonant, double the final consonant and add *-ed* only when the stress is on the final syllable. Do not double the final consonant if the stress is not on the final syllable.
prefer — preferred enter — entered
- Do not double the final consonants *x*, *w*, and *y*.
coax — coaxed snow — snowed stay — stayed

Pronunciation Rules

- If the base form of the verb ends with the sounds /t/ or /d/, then pronounce *-ed* as an extra syllable /ɪd/.
/t/ /d/
start — started need — needed
wait — waited decide — decided
- If the base form ends with the voiceless sounds /f/, /k/, /p/, /s/, /ʃ/, /tʃ/, or /ks/, then pronounce *-ed* as /t/.
laugh — laughed jump — jumped wish — wished fax — faxed
look — looked slice — sliced watch — watched
- If the base form ends with the voiced sounds /b/, /g/, /dʒ/, /m/, /n/, /ŋ/, /l/, /r/, /ð/, /v/, /z/, or with a vowel, then pronounce *-ed* as /d/.
rob — robbed hum — hummed call — called wave — waved
brag — bragged rain — rained order — ordered close — closed
judge — judged bang — banged bathe — bathed play — played