

Changing Verbs to the Past Tense



What Is Past Tense?

The past tense tells us what has already happened.

Look at the two sentences below;
one is in the past tense and one in the present.

I walk down my road.

I walk^{ed} down my road.

Adding the 'ed' suffix to make a Past Tense Verb

For lots of words you just add the suffix ed to make a verb past tense.

walk	→	walk ^{ed}
shout	→	shout ^{ed}
blink	→	blink ^{ed}
jump	→	jump ^{ed}

Making a past tense verb is not always as simple as just adding an 'ed' to the verb. Sometimes we have to use a spelling rule.

If a word ends in an e

If a regular verb already ends with an 'e', just add d instead of ed'.

Here are some examples:

bake → baked

hope → hoped

whine → whined

Changing 'y' to 'i'

If the verb ends in a consonant and a 'y',
take off the 'y' and add an 'i'.

Here are some examples:

hurry → hurried

worry → worried

Don't change the 'y' if the y is part of the special friends oy ey or ay

stay → stayed

enjoy → enjoyed

Doubling the Consonant

If the word has a short vowel sound then one consonant, double the last consonant before adding 'ed'.

This video can help you if you are unsure what a short vowel sound is
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4TjcT7Gto3U>

Here are some examples:

wrap → wrapped

beg → begged

hop → hopped