

# Stress Rules

 [coursera.org/learn/speak-english-professionally/supplement/COIFp/stress-rules](https://coursera.org/learn/speak-english-professionally/supplement/COIFp/stress-rules)

Although English stress varies considerably, there are a few rules that will help you predict stress.

## STRESS RULE 1

### Stress One and Two Word Compound Nouns on the 1st Word

air conditioner	database	handout	pancake	summertime
airplane	daycare	headache	paperback	sunglasses
airfare	deadline	headline	parking lot	sunscreen
airport	debit card	high school	passport	supermarket
apartment building	daydream	highway	password	sweatshirt
automobile	department store	homework	peanuts	sweatpants
bachelor's degree	dining room	homesick	peanut butter	swimming pool
backpack	dishwasher	hotdog	phone call	swimsuit
baseball	driver's license	household	police officer	sunrise
bathroom	driver's test	housewife	popcorn	sunset
beach ball	driveway	ice cream	post office	sunshine
beach towel	drugstore	internet	raincoat	teammate
bedroom	earrings	keyboard	reality show	thunderstorm

birthday	earthquake	language school	redhead	toenail
bookstore	eyebrows	laptop	restroom	toothache
boyfriend	eyelashes	layoff	rock concert	tooth brush
breakdown	father-in-law	lipstick	sailboat	toothpaste
breakfast	fingernail	liquor store	seashells	townhouse
breakup	firefighter	living room	seashore	toy store
bus stop	flashlight	lunchroom	seasick	truck driver
candy bar	football	makeup	seatbelt	T-shirt
can opener	frenchfries	master's degree	security guard	vacuum cleaner
cell phone	friendship	men's room	shoe store	voicemail
checkbook	frying pan	microwave	shopping mall	volleyball
checking account	gas station	mother-in-law	sit-ups	wash cloth
cheesecake	girlfriend	motorcycle	six-pack	washing machine
chewing gum	golf ball	movie theater	snowstorm	watchdog
classmate	grandfather	necklace	soccer ball	watchman
cockroach	grandmother	neighborhood	softball	website
coffee cup	grocery store	newspaper	soft drink	weekend
coffee maker	haircut	nightmare	software	White House

copy machine	hairdresser	nighttime	stomach ache	wintertime
credit card	hamburger	notebook	stoplight	women's room

## STRESS RULE 2

### Stress Proper Nouns (Names) of Two+ Words on the Last Word

I'm leaving for New **York** tomorrow.

I'm leaving for New York **City** tomorrow.

Professor **Jones** is a popular teacher.

Georgia **Tech** is a tough university to get into.

Los **Angeles** is larger than San **Diego**.

Arabic is a common language in the Middle **East**.

## STRESS RULE 3

### Stress Similar Nouns and Verbs Differently. Stress Nouns on the First and Verbs on the Second Syllable.

Nouns - Verbs

CONduct - conDUCT

PROduce - proDUCE

CONtract - conTRACT

PROgress - proGRESS

DEsert - deSSERT

PROject - proJECT

OBject - obJECT

PERmit - perMIT

SUSpect - susPECT

PREsent - preSENT

UPset - upSET

**Many nouns/adjectives and verbs look almost alike, but nouns are one word and verbs are two words. Stress Two-Word Verbs (Compound Verbs) on the 2nd Word**

Nouns - Verbs

BREAKdown - break DOWN

MAKEup - make UP

BREAKup - break UP

PICKup - pick UP

HANDout - hand OUT

LAYoff - lay OFF

HANGout - hang OUT

TAKEout - take OUT

HANGup - hang UP

TAKEoff - take OFF