

1.4 List of irregular verbs

<i>infinitive</i>	<i>past simple</i>	<i>past participle</i>
be	was/were	been
beat	beat	beaten
become	became	become
begin	began	begun
bend	bent	bent
bet	bet	bet
bite	bit	bitten
blow	blew	blown
break	broke	broken
bring	brought	brought
broadcast	broadcast	broadcast
build	built	built
burst	burst	burst
buy	bought	bought
catch	caught	caught
choose	chose	chosen
come	came	come
cost	cost	cost
creep	crept	crept
cut	cut	cut
deal	dealt	dealt
dig	dug	dug
do	did	done
draw	drew	drawn
drink	drank	drunk
drive	drove	driven
eat	ate	eaten
fall	fell	fallen
feed	fed	fed
feel	felt	felt
fight	fought	fought
find	found	found
flee	fled	fled
fly	flew	flown
forbid	forbade	forbidden
forget	forgot	forgotten
forgive	forgave	forgiven
freeze	froze	frozen
get	got	got
give	gave	given
go	went	gone
grow	grew	grown
hang	hung	hung
have	had	had
hear	heard	heard
hide	hid	hidden
hit	hit	hit
hold	held	held
hurt	hurt	hurt
keep	kept	kept
kneel	knelt	knelt
know	knew	known
lay	laid	laid
lead	led	led
leave	left	left
lend	lent	lent
let	let	let
lie	lay	lain

<i>infinitive</i>	<i>past simple</i>	<i>past participle</i>
light	lit	lit
lose	lost	lost
make	made	made
mean	meant	meant
meet	met	met
pay	paid	paid
put	put	put
read	read [red]*	read [red]*
ride	rode	ridden
ring	rang	rung
rise	rose	risen
run	ran	run
say	said	said
see	saw	seen
seek	sought	sought
sell	sold	sold
send	sent	sent
set	set	set
sew	sewed	sewn/sewed
shake	shook	shaken
shine	shone	shone
shoot	shot	shot
show	showed	shown/showed
shrink	shrank	shrunk
shut	shut	shut
sing	sang	sung
sink	sank	sunk
sit	sat	sat
sleep	slept	slept
slide	slid	slid
speak	spoke	spoken
spend	spent	spent
spit	spat	spat
split	split	split
spread	spread	spread
spring	sprang	sprung
stand	stood	stood
steal	stole	stolen
stick	stuck	stuck
sting	stung	stung
stink	stank	stunk
strike	struck	struck
swear	swore	sworn
sweep	swept	swept
swim	swam	swum
swing	swung	swung
take	took	taken
teach	taught	taught
tear	tore	torn
tell	told	told
think	thought	thought
throw	threw	thrown
understand	understood	understood
wake	woke	woken
wear	wore	worn
weep	wept	wept
win	won	won
write	wrote	written

* pronunciation

Appendix 6

Spelling

6.1 Nouns, verbs and adjectives can have the following endings:

noun + -s/-es (<i>plural</i>)	books	ideas	matches
verb + -s/-es (after he/she/it)	works	enjoys	washes
verb + -ing	working	enjoying	washing
verb + -ed	worked	enjoyed	washed
adjective + -er (<i>comparative</i>)	cheaper	quicker	brighter
adjective + -est (<i>superlative</i>)	cheapest	quickest	brightest
adjective + -ly (<i>adverb</i>)	cheaply	quickly	brightly

When we use these endings, there are sometimes changes in spelling. These changes are listed below.

6.2 Nouns and verbs + **-s/-es**

The ending is **-es** when the word ends in **-s/-ss/-sh/-ch/-x**:

bus/buses	miss/misses	wash/washes
match/matches	search/searches	box/boxes

Note also:

potato/potatoes	tomato/tomatoes
do/does	go/goes

6.3 Words ending in **-y** (baby, carry, easy etc.)

If a word ends in a *consonant** + **y** (**-by/-ry/-sy/-vy** etc.)

y changes to **ie** before the ending **-s**:

baby/babies	story/stories	country/countries	secretary/secretaries
hurry/hurries	study/studies	apply/applies	try/tries

y changes to **i** before the ending **-ed**:

hurry/hurried	study/studied	apply/applied	try/tried
---------------	---------------	---------------	-----------

y changes to **i** before the endings **-er** and **-est**:

easy/easier/easiest	heavy/heavier/heaviest	lucky/luckier/luckiest
---------------------	------------------------	------------------------

y changes to **i** before the ending **-ly**:

easy/easily	heavy/heavily	temporary/temporarily
-------------	---------------	-----------------------

y does *not* change before **-ing**:

hurrying	studying	applying	trying
----------	----------	----------	--------

y does *not* change if the word ends in a *vowel** + **y** (**-ay/-ey/-oy/-uy**):

play/plays/played	monkey/monkeys	enjoy/enjoys/enjoyed	buy/buys
-------------------	----------------	----------------------	----------

An exception is: **day/daily**

Note also: **pay/paid** **lay/laid** **say/said**

6.4 Verbs ending in **-ie** (die, lie, tie)

If a verb ends in **-ie**, **ie** changes to **y** before the ending **-ing**:

die/dying	lie/lying	tie/tying
-----------	-----------	-----------

* **a e i o u** are *vowel* letters.

The other letters (**b c d f g** etc.) are *consonant* letters.

6.5 Words ending in -e (hope, dance, wide etc.)

Verbs

If a verb ends in -e, we leave out e before the ending -ing:

hope/hoping smile/smiling dance/dancing confuse/confusing

Exceptions are **be/being**

and verbs ending in -ee:

see/seeing agree/agreeing

If a verb ends in -e, we add -d for the past (of regular verbs):

hope/hoped smile/smiled dance/danced confuse/confused

Adjectives and adverbs

If an adjective ends in -e, we add -r and -st for the comparative and superlative:

wide/wider/widest late/later/latest large/larger/largest

If an adjective ends in -e, we *keep* e before -ly in the adverb:

polite/politely extreme/extremely absolute/absolutely

If an adjective ends in -le (simple, terrible etc.), the adverb ending is -ply, -bly etc. :

simple/simply terrible/terribly reasonable/reasonably

6.6 Doubling consonants (stop/stopping/stopped, wet/wetter/wettest etc.)

Sometimes a word ends in *vowel + consonant*. For example:

stop plan rub big wet thin prefer regret

Before the endings -ing/-ed/-er/-est, we double the consonant at the end. So p → pp, n → nn etc. For example:

stop	p → pp	stopping	stopped
plan	n → nn	planning	planned
rub	b → bb	rubbing	rubbed
big	g → gg	bigger	biggest
wet	t → tt	wetter	wettest
thin	n → nn	thinner	thinnest

If the word has more than one syllable (prefer, begin etc.), we double the consonant at the end *only if the final syllable is stressed*:

preFER / preferring / preferred

perMIT / permitting / permitted

reGRET / regretting / regretted

beGIN / beginning

If the final syllable is not stressed, we do *not* double the final consonant:

VISit / visiting / visited

deVELop / developing / developed

HAPpen / happening / happened

reMEMber / remembering / remembered

In British English, verbs ending in -l have -ll- before -ing and -ed whether the final syllable is stressed or not:

travel / travelling / travelled

cancel / cancelling / cancelled

For American spelling, see Appendix 7.

Note that

we do *not* double the final consonant if the word ends in *two* consonants (-rt, -lp, -ng etc.):

start / starting / started

help / helping / helped

long / longer / longest

we do *not* double the final consonant if there are *two* vowel letters before it (-oil, -eed etc.):

boil / boiling / boiled

need / needing / needed

explain / explaining / explained

cheap / cheaper / cheapest

loud / louder / loudest

quiet / quieter / quietest

we do *not* double y or w at the end of words. (At the end of words y and w are not consonants.)

stay / staying / stayed

grow / growing

new / newer / newest