



# Past simple (Simple past) regular verbs

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# Past simple regular verbs

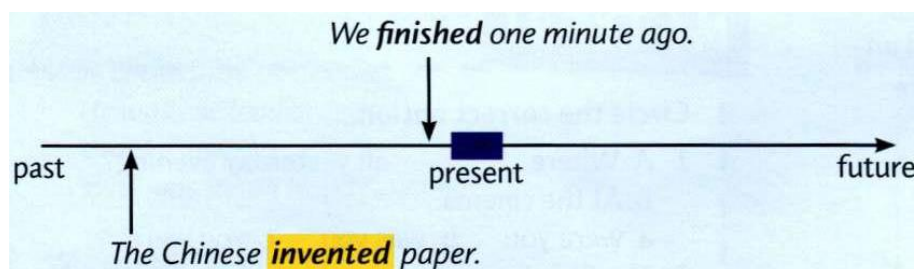
1. Use the past simple for past actions, states and general truths.

I **phoned** Julia yesterday.

**Did** you **stay** at the party long last night?

Once people **didn't believe** the world was round.

2. The past time could be recent or distant.



3. Add **-ed** to make the past simple (regular for all persons. Use **did not** and the infinitive without **to** to make the negative and use **did** to make a question. We usually say and write **didn't** instead of **did not** in informal situations, e.g. an email to friend.

	statement ✓	negative ✕
I / You / He / She / It / We / They	<b>started</b>	<b>did not (didn't) start</b>

question?	short answer
<b>Did</b> I / you / he / she / it / we / they <b>start?</b>	Yes, (I) <b>did</b> . No, (he) <b>did not (didn't)</b> .

4. Past time expressions e.g. **yesterday**, **last (night / week / year)**, **(a few minutes / two months / 10 years) ago**, are sometimes used with the past simple.

She **didn't arrive** yesterday.

**Did** you **clean** the car last weekend?

**Colombus** discovered America 500 years ago.

## Spelling

When the ends in **-e**, add **-d**.

die → died

love → loved

When a verb ends in consonant (**b, t, m**, etc.) and **-y**, delete the **-y** and add **-ied**.

copy → copied

try → tried

When a verb ends in a single vowel (a, e, i, o, u) and a single consonant, double the last consonant.

stop → stopped

prefer → preferred

most verbs	+ -ed	work - worked
verbs ending -e	+ -d	like - liked
verbs ending in consonant + y	y → i + -ed	try → tried
verbs ending in vowel + y ! except pay, lay, say	+ -ed y → i + d	play - played paid, laid, said
verbs ends vowel + consonant ! except if final syllable is <b>not</b> stressed	double consonant + ed	chat - chatted visit - visited
verbs ends l ! North American English has one l	double l + ed	travel - travelled traveled