

Verbs suffixed with -ed

Description

Example

a verb ends with a voiceless consonant; it's pronounced /t/

hope - hoped /**həʊpt**/

a verb ends with a vowel sound or with a voiced consonant; it's pronounced /d/

follow - followed /**'fɒləʊd**/, call - called /**kɔːld**/

† One exception, when the verb ends with a voiceless /t/ or ends with a voiced consonant /d/, -ed is always pronounced /**ɪd**/.

e.g. want - wanted /**wɒntɪd**/, need - needed /**niːdɪd**/.

Nouns suffixed with -s / -es

1. A noun ends with a voiceless consonant; its plural is pronounced /s/

boat - boats /bəʊts/

2. A noun ends with a vowel sound or with a voiced consonant; its plural is pronounced /z/

field - fields /'fi:ldz/

3. Ending with /s, z, ʃ, ʒ, tʃ, dʒ/, its plural is pronounced /ɪz/, and its plural form is spelled *-es*;

class - classes /kla:sɪz/

4. The **-ies rule**:

- nouns ending with a y preceded by a vowel usually add -s only (pronounced /z/);

boy /bɔɪ/ - boys /bɔɪz/

- nouns ending in a y preceded by a consonant usually drop the y and add -ies (pronounced /ɪz/);

lady /'leɪdi/ - ladies /'leɪdi:z/

5. The **-oes rule**:

- most nouns ending in *o* preceded by a vowel sound form their plurals by adding -s only (pronounced /z/);

video - videos /'vɪdɪəʊz/

- most nouns ending in *o* preceded by a consonant form their plurals by adding -es (also pronounced /z/);

hero - heroes /'hɪərəʊz/

6. Many nouns ending in a voiceless sound mutate those sounds to a voiced sound before adding the plural ending. A silent *e* is added in this case if the singular does not already end with -e:

knife /naɪf/ - knives /naɪvz/

- Nouns ending with *th*:

a. Nouns ending with *th* preceded by a long vowel or diphthong form their plurals by adding -s (pronounced /ðz/);

path /pa:θ/ - paths /pa:ðz/

b. Nouns ending with *th* preceded by a short vowel or consonant form their plurals by adding -s also (pronounced /θs/);

month /mʌntθ/ - months /mʌntθs/