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Chapter Eight

Irregular verbs

There is a considerable number of **irregular verbs** (about 450, but only about 200 are in common use) that form their simple past and past participle forms with a vowel change, such as in *see-saw-seen* (see table below). Some irregular verbs do not change form at all (*let-let-let*). Irregular verbs originate mostly from Old English.

Present form	Past form	Past participle
arise	arose	arisen
rise	rose	risen
raise (to increase value, amount strength etc)	raised	raised
awake	awoke	awaked
bear (to carry)	bore	borne
bear (to give birth)	bore	borne
beat	beat (pronounced as-bet)	beat / beaten
be	was, were	been
become	became	become
begin	began	begun
bet	betted (bet also)	betted (bet also)
bid (to offer)	bid	bid
bid (to command, farewell)	bade	bidden
bind	bound	bound

Present form	Past form	Past participle
bite	bit	bitten
bleed	bled	bled
blow	blew	blown
break	broke	broken
brake	braked	braked
breed	bred	bred
bring	brought	brought
burst	burst	burst
buy	bought	bought
behold (observe)	Beheld	beheld
blend	blended	blended
bend	bent	bent
build	built	built
beset	beset	beset
broadcast	broadcast	broadcast
burn	burnt	burnt
cast	cast	cast
catch	caught	caught
choose	chose	chosen
cling (to adhere)	clung	clung
come	came	come
cost	cost	cost
creep	crept	crept
cut	cut	cut

Present form	Past form	Past participle
carry	carried	carried
crow	crowed	crowed
change	changed	changed
drive	drove	driven
dare	dared	dared
deal	dealt	dealt
dig	dug	dug
do/does	did	done
draw	drew	drawn
dream	dreamed	dreamed
drink	drank	drunk
dwell	dwelt	dwelt
dry	dried	dried
dive (jumped head first)	dove	dived
dive (scuba-diving)	dived	dived
drop	dropped	dropped
eat	ate	eaten
fall	fell	fallen
feed	fed	fed
feel	felt	felt
fight	fought	fought
find	found	found
fit (verb) fitted (adjective=fitted door)	fit	fit
flee	fled	fled

Present form	Past form	Past participle
fling	flung	flung
forbid	forbade	forbidden
forget	forgot	forgotten
forgive	forgave	forgiven
forsake	forsook	forsaken
freeze	froze	frozen
fling	flung	flung
forego	forewent	foregone
foresee	foresaw	foreseen
foretell	foretold	foretold
forswear	forswore	forsworn
flow	flowed	flowed
forecast	forecast / forecasted	forecast / forecasted
get	got	got
give	gave	given
gild	gilded	gilded
go	Went	gone
grind	ground	ground
grow	grew	grown
hang (a picture)	hung	hung
hang (a man)	hanged	hanged
has/have	had	had
hear	heard	heard
hide	hid	hidden

Present form	Past form	Past participle
hit	hit	hit
hold	held	held
hurry	hurried	hurried
hurt	hurt	hurt
keep	kept	kept
kneel	knelt	knelt
knit	knitted	knitted
know	knew	known
fly	flew	flown
Light	lighted/lit	lighted/lit
lose	lost	lost
land	landed	landed
lead	led	Led
lean	leant/leaned	leant/leaned
leave	left	left
lend	lent	lent
let	let	let
lock	locked	locked
Learn	learnt	learnt
live	lived	lived
leap	leaped	leaped
lie (down to rest)	Lay	lain
lie (tell a lie)	lied	lied
lay (the table, eggs)	laid	laid

Be clear about- lie (tell a lie), lie (down to rest) and lay (the table).

Present form	Past form	Past participle
make	made	made
melt	melted	melted
mean	meant	meant
make	made	made
mean	meant	meant
meet	met	met
mistake	mistook	mistaken
mislead	misled	misled
mislay	mislaid	mislaid
misspell	misspelled	misspelled
mow	mowed	mown
misunderstand	misunderstand	misunderstand
outgrow	outgrew	outgrown
outdo	outdid	outdone
outrun	outran	outrun
outshine	outshone	outshone
overcome	overcame	overcome
overcast	overcast	overcast
overhear	overheard	overheard
oversee	oversaw	overseen
oversleep	overslept	overslept
overthrow	overthrew	overthrown
overdraw	overdrew	overdrawn
overeat	overate	overeaten

Present form	Past form	Past participle
overdo	overdid	overdone
overfeed	overfed	overfed
overhang	overhung	overhung
overshoot	overshot	overshot
overtake	overtook	overtaken
pay	paid	paid
play	played	played
prove	proved	proven
put	put	put
punish	punished	punished
partake	partook	partaken
quit	quit	quit
ride	rode	ridden
rid	rid	rid
rend	rent	rent
read	read (spoken as red)	read
rest	rested	rested
rise	rose	risen
ring	rang	rung
run	ran	run
rebuild	rebuilt	rebuilt
recast	recast	recast
repay	repaid	repaid
reset	reset	reset

Present form	Past form	Past participle
retell	retold	retold
saw	sawed	sawed
sew	sewed	sewed, sewn
shine (brightly)	shone	shone
shine	shined	shined
show	showed	shown
Sow	sowed	sowed, sown
say	Said	said
see	saw	seen
seek	sought	sought
sell	sold	sold
send	sent	sent
set	set	set
shake	shook	shaken
shed	shed	shed
shoot	shot	shot
shrink	shrank	shrunk
shut	shut	shut
sing	sang	sung
sink	sank	sunk
slay	slew	slain
sit	sat	sat
sleep	slept	slept
slip	slipped	slipped

Present form	Past form	Past participle
slide	slid	slid
strike	struck	struck
sling	slung	slung
spill	spilt/spilled	spilt/spilled
slink	slunk	slunk
spell	spelt, spelled	spelt, spelled
spend	spent	spent
stick	stuck	stuck
speak	spoke	spoken
speed	sped	sped
spin	spun	spun
Spoil	spoilt / spoiled	spoilt / spoiled
split	Split	split
spit	spat	spat
slit	slit	slit
spread	spread	spread
spring	sprang	sprung
sting	stung	stung
stand	stood	stood
steal	stole	stolen
stink	Stank	stunk
strive	strived/strove	strived/striven
study	studied	studied
strew	strewed	strewed
stride	strode	stridden

Present form	Past form	Past participle
string	strung	strung
swear	swore	sworn
sweep	swept	swept
swell	swelled	swollen
swing	swung	swung
smell	smelt	smelt
shear	shore	shore
shoe	shod	shod
smite	smote	smitten
swim	swam	swum
take	took	taken
teach	taught	taught
tear	tore	torn
tell	told	told
talk	talked	talked
Think	Thought	thought
thrive	throve	thriven
throw	Threw	thrown
tread	trod	trodden
travel	traveled	traveled
thrust	thrust	thrust
Unbind	unbound	unbound
Underbid	underbid	underbid
undersell	undersold	undersold

Present form	Past form	Past participle
underwrite	underwrote	underwritten
undo	undid	undone
undergo	underwent	undergone
undertake	undertook	undertaken
understand	understood	understood
uphold	upheld	upheld
upset	upset	upset
wear	wore	worn
weave	wove	woven
wash	washed	washed
wake	woke /waked	woken / waked
weep	wept	wept
win	won	won
waylay	waylaid	waylaid
wind	wound	wound
wring	wrung	wrung
wed	wedded/wed	wedded/wed
write	wrote	written
withdraw	withdrew	withdrawn
withhold	withheld	withheld
withstand	withstood	withstood
work	worked	worked
is, am/are	was/were	been
has, have	had	had