

Irregular verbs

This appendix lists all the verbs with irregular forms that are included in the dictionary, except for those formed with a hyphenated prefix and the modal verbs (e.g. can, must). Irregular forms that are only used in certain senses are marked with an asterisk (e.g. *abode). Full information on usage, pronunciation, etc. is given at the entry.

Infinitive	Past tense	Past participle	Infinitive	Past tense	Past participle
abide	abided, *abode	abided, *abode	flee	fled	fled
arise	arose	arisen	fling	flung	flung
awake	awoke	awoken	floodlight	floodlit	floodlit
babysit	babysat	babysat	fly	flew, *fled	flown, *fled
bear	bore	borne	forbear	forbore	forborne
beat	beat	beaten	forbid	forbade	forbidden
become	became	become	forecast	forecast, forecasted	forecast, forecasted
befall	befell	befallen	foresee	foresaw	foreseen
beget	begot, *begat	begot, *begotten	foretell	foretold	foretold
begin	began	begun	forget	forgot	forgotten
behold	beheld	beheld	forgive	forgave	forgiven
bend	bent	bent	forgo	forwent	forgone
beseech	beseeched, besought	beseeched, besought	forsake	forsook	forsaken
beset	beset	beset	forsewear	forsovere	forsworn
bespeak	bespoke	bespoken	freeze	froze	frozen
bet	bet	bet	gainsay	gainsaid	gainsaid
betake	betook	betaken	get	got	got (NAMe, spoken gotten)
bid ¹	bid	bid	give	gave	given
bid ²	bade, bid	bidden, bid	go	went	gone, *been
bind	bound	bound	grind	ground	ground
bite	bit	bitten	grow	grew	grown
bleed	bled	bled	hamstring	hamstrung	hamstrung
blow	blew	blown, *blowed	hang	hung, *hanged	hung, *hanged
break	broke	broken	hear	heard	heard
breastfeed	breastfed	breastfed	heave	heaved, *hove	heaved, *hove
breed	bred	bred	hew	hewed	hewed, hewn
bring	brought	brought	hide	hid	hidden
broadcast	broadcast	broadcast	hit	hit	hit
browbeat	browbeat	browbeaten	hold	held	held
build	built	built	hurt	hurt	hurt
burn	burnt, burned	burnt, burned	inlay	inlaid	inlaid
burst	burst	burst	input	input, inputted	input, inputted
bust	bust, busted	bust, busted	inset	inset	inset
buy	bought	bought	intercut	intercut	intercut
cast	cast	cast	interweave	interwove	interwoven
catch	caught	caught	keep	kept	kept
choose	chose	chosen	kneel	knelt (NAMe also kneeled)	knelt (NAMe also kneeled)
cleave	cleaved, *cleft, *clove	cleaved, *cleft, *cloven	knit	knitted, *knit	knitted, *knit
cling	clung	clung	know	knew	known
come	came	come	lay	laid	laid
cost	cost, *costed	cost, *costed	lead	led	led
creep	crept	crept	lean	leaned	leaned
cut	cut	cut		(BrE also leant)	(BrE also leant)
deal	dealt	dealt	leap	leapt (especially in BrE), leaped (especially in NAMe)	leapt (especially in BrE), leaped (especially in NAMe)
dig	dug	dug	learn	learned (also learnt especially in BrE)	learned (also learnt especially in BrE)
dive	dived	dived			
	(NAMe also dove)		leave	left	left
draw	drew	drawn	lend	lent	lent
dream	dreamt, dreamed	dreamt, dreamed	let	let	let
drink	drank	drunk	lie ¹	lay	lain
drive	drove	driven	light	lit, *lighted	lit, *lighted
dwell	dwelt, dwelled	dwelt, dwelled	lose	lost	lost
eat	ate	eaten	make	made	made
fall	fell	fallen	mean	meant	meant
feed	fed	fed	meet	met	met
feel	felt	felt	miscast	miscast	miscast
fight	fought	fought	misheard	misheard	misheard
find	found	found			
fit	fitted (NAMe usually fit)	fitted (NAMe usually fit)			

Infinitive	Past tense	Past participle	Infinitive	Past tense	Past participle
mishit	mishit	mishit	rewrite	rewrote	rewritten
mislay	mislaid	mislaid	rid	rid	rid
mislead	misled	misled	ride	rode	ridden
misread	misread	misread	ring ²	rang	rung
misspeak	misspoke	misspoken	rise	rose	risen
misspell	misspelled, misspelt	misspelled, misspelt	run	ran	run
misspend	misspent	misspent	saw	sawed	sawn (<i>NAmE</i> also sawed)
mistake	mistook	mistaken	say	said	said
misunderstand	misunderstood	misunderstood	see	saw	seen
mow	mowed	mown, mowed	seek	sought	sought
offset	offset	offset	sell	sold	sold
outbid	outbid	outbid	send	sent	sent
outdo	outdid	outdone	set	set	set
outgrow	outgrew	outgrown	sew	sewed	sewn, sewed
output	output	output	shake	shook	shaken
outrun	outran	outrun	shear	sheared	shorn, sheared
outsell	outsold	outsold	shed	shed	shed
outshine	outshone	outshone	shine	shone, *shined	shone, *shined
outspend	outspent	outspent	shit, shat	shit, shat	shit, shat
overcome	overcame	overcome		(<i>BrE</i> also shifted)	(<i>BrE</i> also shifted)
overdo	overdid	overdone	shoe	shod	shod
overdraw	overdrew	overdrawn	shoot	shot	shot
overeat	overate	overeaten	show	showed	shown, *showed
overfeed	overfed	overfed	shrink	shrank, shrunk	shrunk
overfly	overflew	overflown	shut	shut	shut
overhang	overhung	overhung	simulcast	simulcast	simulcast
overhear	overheard	overheard	sing	sang	sung
overlay	overlaid	overlaid	sink	sank, *sunk	sunk
overlie	overlay	overlain	sit	sat	sat
overpay	overpaid	overpaid	slay	slew	slain
override	overrode	overridden	sleep	slept	slept
overrun	overran	overrun	slide	slid	slid
oversee	oversaw	overseen	slung	slung	slung
oversell	oversold	oversold	slink	slunk	slunk
overshoot	overshot	overshot	slit	slit	slit
oversleep	overslept	overslept	smell	smelled	smelled
overspend	overspent	overspent		(<i>BrE</i> also smelt)	(<i>BrE</i> also smelt)
overtake	overtook	overtaken	smite	smote	smitten
overthink	overthought	overthought	sow	sowed	sown, sowed
overthrow	overthrew	overthrown	speak	spoke	spoken
overwrite	overwrote	overwritten	speed	speeded, *sped	speeded, *sped
partake	partook	partaken	spell	spelt, spelled	spelt, spelled
pay	paid	paid	spend	spent	spent
plead	pleaded (<i>NAmE</i> also pled)	pleaded (<i>NAmE</i> also pled)	spill	spilled	spilled
preset	preset	preset		(<i>BrE</i> also spilt)	(<i>BrE</i> also spilt)
proofread	proofread	proofread	spin	spun	spun
prove	proved	proved (<i>also</i> proven especially in <i>NAmE</i>)	spit	spat (<i>also</i> spit especially in <i>NAmE</i>)	spat (<i>also</i> spit especially in <i>NAmE</i>)
			split	split	split
put	put	put	spoil	spoiled	spoiled
quit	quit (<i>BrE</i> also quitted)	quit (<i>BrE</i> also quitted)		(<i>BrE</i> also spoilt)	(<i>BrE</i> also spoilt)
read /ri:d/	read /red/	read /red/	spotlight	spotlit, *spotlighted	spotlit, *spotlighted
rebuild	rebuilt	rebuilt			
recast	recast	recast	spread	spread	spread
redo	redid	redone	spring	sprang (<i>NAmE</i> also sprung)	sprung
redraw	redrew	redrawn			
rehear	reheard	reheard	stand	stood	stood
remake	remade	remade	stave	staved, *stove	staved, *stove
rend	rent	rent	steal	stole	stolen
rerun	reran	rerun	stick	stuck	stuck
resell	resold	resold	sting	stung	stung
reset	reset	reset	stink	stank, stunk	stunk
resit	resat	resat	strew	strewed	strewed, strewn
restring	restrung	restrung	stride	strode	—
retake	retook	retaken	strike	struck	struck (<i>NAmE</i> also stricken)
retell	retold	retold			
rethink	rethought	rethought	string	strung	strung
retread	retrod, *retreaded	retrodden, *retreaded	strive	strove, *strived	striven, *strived
			sublet	sublet	sublet
rewind	rewound	rewound	swear	swore	sworn
			sweep	swept	swept
			swell	swelled	swollen, swelled

Infinitive	Past tense	Past participle
swim	swam	swum
swing	swung	swung
take	took	taken
teach	taught	taught
tear	tore	torn
telecast	telecast	telecast
tell	told	told
think	thought	thought
throw	threw	thrown
thrust	thrust	thrust
tread	trod	trodden, trod
typecast	typecast	typecast
typeset	typeset	typeset
unbend	unbent	unbent
underbid	underbid	underbid
undercut	undercut	undercut
undergo	underwent	undergone
underlie	underlay	underlain
underpay	underpaid	underpaid
undersell	undersold	undersold
understand	understood	understood

Full forms	Short forms	Negative short forms
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be present tense

I am	I'm	I'm not
you are	you're	you aren't/you're not
he is	he's	he isn't/he's not
she is	she's	she isn't/she's not
it is	it's	it isn't/it's not
we are	we're	we aren't/we're not
you are	you're	you aren't/you're not
they are	they're	they aren't/they're not

be past tense

I was	—	I wasn't
you were	—	you weren't
he was	—	he wasn't
she was	—	she wasn't
it was	—	it wasn't
we were	—	we weren't
you were	—	you weren't
they were	—	they weren't

have present tense

I have	I've	I haven't/I've not
you have	you've	you haven't/you've not
he has	he's	he hasn't/he's not
she has	she's	she hasn't/she's not
it has	it's	it hasn't/it's not
we have	we've	we haven't/we've not
you have	you've	you haven't/you've not
they have	they've	they haven't/they've not

have past tense (all persons)

had	I'd	hadn't
	you'd	
	etc.	

do present tense

I do	—	I don't
you do	—	you don't
he does	—	he doesn't
she does	—	she doesn't
it does	—	it doesn't
we do	—	we don't
you do	—	you don't
they do	—	they don't

do past tense (all persons)

did	—	didn't
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present participle	being	doing	having
past participle	been	done	had

Infinitive	Past tense	Past participle
undertake	undertook	undertaken
underwrite	underwrote	underwritten
undo	undid	undone
unfreeze	unfroze	unfrozen
unwind	unwound	unwound
uphold	upheld	upheld
upset	upset	upset
wake	woke	woken
waylay	waylaid	waylaid
wear	wore	worn
weave	wove, *weaved	woven, *weaved
wed	wedded, wed	wedded, wed
weep	wept	wept
wet	wet, wetted	wet, wetted
win	won	won
wind ² /waɪnd/	wound /waʊnd/	wound /waʊnd/
withdraw	withdrew	withdrawn
withhold	withheld	withheld
withstand	withstood	withstood
wring	wrung	wrung
write	wrote	written

be, do, have

- The negative full forms are formed by adding **not**.
- Questions in the present and past are formed by placing the verb before the subject:
 - *am I? isn't he? was I? weren't we? do I? don't you? did I? didn't I? have I? hadn't they? etc.*
- Questions using the negative full form are more formal:
 - *has he not? do you not? etc.*
- The short negative question form for **I am** is **aren't**:
 - *aren't I?*
- When **do** or **have** is used as a main verb, questions and negative statements can be formed with **do/does/doesn't** and **did/didn't**:
 - *How did you do it?*
 - *I don't do any teaching now.*
 - *Do you have any money on you?*
 - *We didn't have much time.*
- The short forms *'ve*, *'s* and *'d* are not usually used when **have** is a main verb:
 - *I have a shower every morning.*
NOT *I've a shower every morning.*
- The short form *'s* can be added to other subjects:
 - *Sally's ill. The car's been damaged.*
- The **other tenses** of **be**, **do** and **have** are formed in the same way as those of other verbs:
 - *will be would be has been*
will do would do has done
will have would have have had; etc.
- The **pronunciation** of each form of **be**, **do** and **have** is given at its entry in the dictionary.