

Passato Imperfetto

The *passato imperfetto* is used for ongoing or habitual actions in the past. It signifies that an action not only happened once, but it was an ongoing action. The imperfect past is second to the the perfect past in terms of popularity and day-to-day usage. Meaning that it is used extensively in prolonged conversations. A solid knowledge in the *passato prossimo* past and the *passato imperfetto* will render the learner ready with most of the past congiugations needed to carry a meaningful conversation in Italian. This tense does not make use of a helping verb like the *passato perfetto* does. There also are fewer irregular cases.

Conjugation

- are

o Singular: avo, avi, ava

Plural: avamo, avate, avano

- ere

o Singular: evo, evi, eva

o Plural: evamo, evate, evano

- ire

Singular: ivo, ivi, iva

Plural: ivamo, ivate, ivano

When to use:

It may be used in most situations where the English "I used to ..." or "I was ..." would satisfy the case.

Conjugation Tbale

Passato Imperfetto 1

PERSON	ARE (1st ending)	ERE (2nd ending)	IRE (3nd ending)
1S	parl avo	ricev evo	dorm ivo
2S	parl avi	ricev evi	dorm ivi
3S	parl ava	ricev eva	dorm iva
1P	parl avamo	ricev evamo	dorm ivamo
2P	parl avate	ricev evate	dorm ivate
3P	parl avano	ricev evano	dorm ivano

Passato Imperfetto 2