

Spelling Rules & Pronunciation

Regular plurals

Singular	Plural	Spelling
a book a key	books keys	add -s
a watch a box	watches boxes	add -es after <i>ch, sh, s, x</i>
a country a dictionary	countries dictionaries	consonant + y → <i>ies</i>

Present Simple

- The rules are the same as for regular plurals in *he/she/it*

I work / play / live.	He works / plays / lives.
I watch / finish / go / do.	She watches / finishes / goes / does.
I study.	She studies.

For the -ing form

infinitive	verb + -ing	spelling
cook study	cooking studying	add -ing
dance	dancing	e + -ing
shop	Shopping	one vowel + one consonant = double consonant + -ing

- We use verb + -ing after verbs *like, love, don't mind, and hate*.

Regular verbs

infinitive	past	spelling
watch play	watched played	add -ed
live	lived	add -d
Stop	stopped	one vowel + one consonant = double consonant
study	Studied	consonant + y → <i>ied</i>

Pronunciation of -ed ending of regular verbs

- To form the **past simple** and the **past participle** of **regular verbs** we add **-ed**:

Play → played

Work → worked

Start → started

- There are three different ways to pronounce the *-ed* ending:

sound	example	pronunciation
1. /d/	play ed	'd' sound
2. /t/	work ed	't' sound
3. /ɪd/	start ed	'ɪd' sound

1. When the last sound before -ed is voiced (which means you will feel your vocal cords vibrate), the -ed sound is **/d/**. Example, play**ed**.

2. When the last sound before -ed is voiceless (which means you won't feel your vocal cords vibrate), the -ed sound is **/t/**. Example, work**ed**.

3. When the last sound before -ed is /t/ or /d/ the -ed sound is **/ɪd/**. Example, start**ed**.

Some regular verbs with *-ed* ending pronounced **/d/**.

verb	past tense	pronunciation /d/
play	played	played
show	showed	showed
close	closed	closed
open	opened	opened
enjoy	enjoyed	enjoyed
love	loved	loved
try	tried	tried
rain	rained	rained
learn	learned	learned
clean	cleaned	cleaned

Some regular verbs with *-ed* ending pronounced /t/.

verb	past tense	pronunciation /t/
work	worked	worked
cook	cooked	cooked
walk	walked	walked
kiss	kissed	kissed
like	liked	liked
stop	stopped	stopped
look	looked	looked
drop	dropped	dropped

Some regular verbs with *-ed* ending pronounced /id/.

verb	past tense	pronunciation /id/
wait	waited	waited
want	wanted	wanted
need	needed	needed
decide	decided	decided
hate	hated	hated
taste	tasted	tasted
end	ended	ended