

Irregular verbs

Irregular verbs do not follow the 'ed' rules for forming the past simple:

'walk' + 'ed' = walked [regular verb]

Some irregular verbs stay the same in both forms, others change a vowel and some change completely. Sometimes there are two possible forms for the past simple; the difference is sometimes regional.

Note that the list does not include all the compound verbs because they follow the same rules as the root verb. For example:

Bare infinitive	Past Simple
eat/overeat	ate/overate
do/undo	did/undid

Bare infinitive	Past Simple
babysit	babysat
be	was, were
beat	beat
become	became
begin	began
bend	bent
bet	bet
bid [farewell]	bid/bade
bid [offer amount]	bid
bind	bound
bite	bit
bleed	bled
blow	blew
break	broke
breed	bred
bring	brought
broadcast	broadcast/broadcasted
build	built
burn	burnt/burned
buy	bought
cast	cast
catch	caught
choose	chose
come	came

cost	cost
cut	cut
deal	dealt
do	did
draw	drew
dream	dreamt/dreamed
drink	drank
drive	drove
eat	ate
fall	fell
feed	fed
feel	felt
fight	fought
find	found
fit	fitted/fit
fly	flew
forbid	forbade
forecast	forecast
foresee	foresaw
forget	forgot
forgive	forgave
freeze	froze
get	got
give	gave
go	went
grow	grew
handwrite	handwrote
hang [execute]	hanged 'They hanged the murderer.'
hang [other uses]	hung 'They hung a picture on the wall.'
have	had
hear	heard
hide	hid
hit	hit
hold	held
hurt	hurt
input	input/inputted
keep	kept
kneel	knelt/kneeled
knit	knitted/knit
know	knew
lay	laid
lead	led
lean	leant/leaned

leap	leapt/leaped
learn	learnt/learned
leave	left
lend	lent
let	let
lie [not tell the truth]	lied
lie [recline]	lay
light	lit/lighted
lose	lost
make	made
mean	meant
meet	met
mislay	mislaid
mislead	misled
mistake	mistook
overcome	overcame
pay	paid
put	put
quit	quit
read	read [sounds like 'red']
rid	rid
ride	rode
ring	rang
rise	rose
run	ran
say	said
see	saw
seek	sought
sell	sold
send	sent
set	set
shake	shook
shave	shaved
shine [make something shiny]	shined 'He shined his shoes.' [regular]
shine [emit light]	shone/shined 'The sun shone.'
shoot	shot
shut	shut
sing	sang
sink	sank
sit	sat
sleep	slept
slide	slid
smell	smelt/smelled

speak	spoke
speed	sped/speeded
spell	spelt/spelled
spend	spent
spill	spilt/spilled
split	split
spoil	spoilt/spoiled
spread	spread
spring	sprang/sprung
stand	stood
steal	stole
stick	stuck
sting	stung
stink	stank/stunk
strike	struck
sweep	swept
swim	swam
swing	swung
take	took
teach	taught
tear	tore
tell	told
think	thought
throw	threw
troubleshoot	troubleshoot
understand	understood
undertake	undertook
upset	upset
wake	woke
wear	wore
weep	wept
wet	wet/wetted
win	won
wind	wound
write	wrote



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