

# 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/ <u>overeat</u>	ate/ <u>overate</u>
do/ <u>undo</u>	did/ <u>undid</u>

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

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

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

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

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