



THE PAST SIMPLE OF REGULAR AND IRREGULAR VERBS

REGULAR VERBS

- The verbs 'lived, started, died' are **regular** past forms. The rule is the following:

Verb + ed

- **Examples:**

The infinitive	The past simple
live	lived
start	started
die	died
visit	visited
play	played
watch	watched
phone	phoned
marry	married

o **Spelling of -ed forms**

Verbs ending in a...			
1. silent <i>e</i>	2. vowel + <i>y</i>	3. consonant + <i>y</i>	4. other forms
close = closed die = died phone = phoned	play = played destroy = destroyed show = showed	marry = married carry = carried study = studied	visit = visited miss = missed watch = watched finish = finished fix = fixed buzz = buzzed

Here are the rules:

1. Regular verbs ending in a silent *e* take /-d/ in the past simple and past participle -> close=closed
2. Regular verbs ending in a vowel + *y* take /-ed/ in the past simple and past participle -> play=played
3. Regular verbs ending in a consonant + *y* take /-ied/ in the past simple and past participle (the *y* becomes an *i* followed by /-ed/) -> marry=married
4. All the other regular verbs take /-ed/ in the past simple and past participle -> visit=visited

Special cases:

Follow these rules when there is a consonant after a vowel (stop, ban, open, offer...)

- If there is a consonant after a stressed vowel at the end of the word, double the consonant:
stop – stopped
ban - banned
- If the vowel is not stressed, we do not double it:
open - opened (Here the stress is on 'o', not the 'e'.)
offer - offered (Here the stress is on 'o', not the 'e'.)

IRREGULAR VERBS

- The verbs '**was, wrote**' are **irregular** past forms. "Was" is the past simple of 'to be'; "wrote" is the past simple of 'write'.
- There is no rule for these verbs. **You should learn them by heart.**

The infinitive	The past simple
be	was/were
write	wrote
come	came
do	did
meet	met
speak	spoke

- **List of irregular verbs**

Infinitive	Past simple Tense
be	was, were
beat	beat
become	became
begin	began
bend	bent
bet	bet
bite	bit
bleed	bled

blow	blew
break	broke
bring	brought
build	built
burn	burned/burnt
burst	burst
buy	bought
catch	caught
choose	chose
come	came
cost	cost
cut	cut
deal	dealt
do	did
draw	drew
dream	dreamed/dreamt
drive	drove
drink	drank
eat	ate
fall	fell

feel	felt
fight	fought
find	found
fit	fit
fly	flew
forbid	forbade
forget	forgot
forgive	forgave
freeze	froze
get	got
give	gave
go	went
grow	grew
hear	heard
hide	hid
hit	hit
hold	held
hurt	hurt
keep	kept
know	knew

lead	led
learn	learned/learnt
leave	left
lend	lent
let	let
lose	lost
make	made
mean	meant
meet	met
pay	paid
put	put
read	read
run	ran
say	said
see	saw
sell	sold
send	sent
shake	shook
shave	shaved
sing	sang

sink	sank
sit	sat
sleep	slept
speak	spoke
spend	spent
spit	spit/spat
stand	stood
steal	stole
strike	struck
swear	swore
swim	swam
take	took
teach	taught
tell	told
think	thought
throw	threw
understand	understood
wake	woke
wear	wore
win	won

write	wrote
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FORMS OF THE PAST SIMPLE

o The affirmative form

I, you, he, she, it, we, they	played
	wrote
	did

Examples:

- I **played** tennis with my friends yesterday.
- I **finished** lunch and I **did** my homework.

o The interrogative form

Did	I, you, he, she, it, we, they	play?
		write
		do?

Examples:

- **Did you play** basketball yesterday? -> Yes, I did/ No, I didn't.
- **Did you watch** television? -> Yes, I did/ No, I didn't.
- **Did you do** the homework? -> Yes, I did/ No, I didn't.

o The negative form

I, you, he, she, it, we, they	did not/didn't	play
		write
		do

Examples:

- I **didn't like** the food in the wedding last Saturday.

- I **didn't** eat it.

- **Remember**

1. **didn't** is the short form of **did not**. You can say either:

- I **did not play** basketball, or
- I **didn't play** basketball.

WORKSHEET

1. Spelling of the regular past simple forms -> Put the verbs into the simple past:

1. The kids (play) in the garden last Saturday.
2. She (visit) her friends last weekend.
3. Yesterday, I (show)..... my little brother the new computer game.
4. Last Friday, we (decide)to visit Cairo.
5. Who (invent) the bulb?
6. The shop assistant (open) the door to customers.
7. What (happen)yesterday?
8. The students (work)on the project together yesterday.
9. They (want) to watch TV last night.
10. We (walk) home last night.

2. Regular and irregular verbs -> Put the verbs into the simple past:

1. Last year I (go)to England on holidays.
2. It (be)fantastic.
3. I (visit)lots of interesting places.
4. In the mornings we (walk)in the streets of London.
5. In the evenings we (go)to pubs.
6. The weather (be)strangely fine.
7. It (not / rain)a lot.
8. But we (see)some beautiful rainbows.

9. Where (spend / you)your last holiday?

3. Irregular verbs -> Complete the table in the past simple.

Affirmative	Negative	Interrogative
He wrote a book.		
	He did not sing	
		Was she pretty?

4. Regular and irregular verbs -> Put the sentences into the past simple.

1. We move to a new house:
2. They bring a sandwich:
3. He doesn't do the homework:
4. They sell cars:
5. Does he visit his friends?: