

## How do we pronounce the -ed?

The answer is: **In 3 ways** - / **Id**/ or / **t**/ or / **d**/

If the base verb ends in one of these sounds:		example base verb*:	example with -ed:	pronounce the -ed:	extra syllable?
/t/		want	<u>wanted</u>	/ <b>Id</b> /	yes
/d/		end	ended		
	/p/	hope	<u>hoped</u>	/ <b>t</b> /	no
	/f/	laugh	laughed		
	/s/	fax	faxed		
	/S/	wash	washed		
	/tS/	watch	watched		
	/k/	like	liked		
all other sounds, for example...		play	<u>played</u>	/ <b>d</b> /	
		allow	allowed		
		beg	begged		

\* note that it is the **sound** that is important, not the letter or spelling. For example, "fax" ends in the letter "x" but the sound /s/; "like" ends in the letter "e" but the sound /k/.

### Exceptions

The following -ed words used as adjectives are pronounced with /Id/:

- aged            • dogged        • ragged
- blessed        • learned       • wicked
- crooked       • naked         • wretched

## Spelling of the regular Past Tense

These spelling rules are for adding -ed to verbs:

**To form the simple past and past participle of most regular verbs, add -ed to the simple form:**

brush — brushed      play — played

**If the simple form ends with -e, just add -d:**

race — raced      trade — traded

**If the simple form ends with a consonant + y, change the y to i and add -ed:**

bury — buried      dry — dried      (Compare vowel + y: play — played, enjoy — enjoyed.)

**If the simple form of a one-syllable verb ends with a single vowel + consonant double the final consonant and add -ed:**

plan — planned      stop — stopped

**If the simple form of a verb with two or more syllables ends in a single vowel + consonant, double the final consonant and add -ed only when the stress is on the final syllable. Do not double the final consonant if the stress is not on the final syllable:**

prefere — preferred

enter — entered

The final "l" is always doubled in British English, but not in American English:

travel travelled (British)      trave traveled (American)

**Do not double the final consonants x, w, and y:**

coax — coaxed      snow — snowed      stay — stayed