

Past Simple Spelling Rules

Compare the **verbs in base and past Simple forms** below. How do we form the Past Simple forms?



Mike **lifted** the heavy trunk alone.

Base Form Verb	Past Simple Form Verb
<i>help</i>	<i>helped</i>
<i>brush</i>	<i>brushed</i>
<i>walk</i>	<i>walked</i>
<i>clean</i>	<i>cleaned</i>
<i>stay</i>	<i>stayed</i>
<i>dance</i>	<i>danced</i>
<i>type</i>	<i>typed</i>
<i>live</i>	<i>lived</i>
<i>stop</i>	<i>stopped</i>
<i>trap</i>	<i>trapped</i>
<i>prefer</i>	<i>preferred</i>
<i>carry</i>	<i>carried</i>
<i>apply</i>	<i>applied</i>
<i>cry</i>	<i>cried</i>

Example Verbs?	?	?	?	?
Ending?	?	?	?	?
Rule?	?	?	?	?

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Compare the **verbs in base and Past Simple forms** below.
How do we form the Past Simple forms?

Mike lifted the heavy trunk alone.

Base Form Verb	Past Simple Form Verb
help	helped
brush	brushed
walk	walked
clean	cleaned
stay	stayed
dance	danced
type	typed
live	lived
stop	stopped
trap	trapped
prefer	preferred
carry	carried
apply	applied
cry	cried

Example Verbs?	helped brushed cleaned stayed	danced typed lived	stopped trapped preferred	carried applied cried
Ending?	-ed	-d	-ed	-ied
Rule?	Most verbs	after... _____e After the verbs ending in -e , drop the letter '-e'	after... _____CVC After verbs ending in a consonant-vowel-consonant , double the last letter	after... _____y After verbs ending in a consonant , add letter 'y'

Note 1: These rules apply to regular verbs. Irregular verbs have different patterns.

Note 2: We only double the last letter if the last syllable is stressed. For example, rub > rubbed but visit > visited

Note 3: One syllable verbs' last letters are usually doubled. However, with verbs ending -w, -x, -y do not double the last letter. For example, show > showed, mix > mixed, pray > prayed.

Note 4: In US English 'travel' is 'traveled'. We do not double the last letter as in UK English.