

SPELLING RULES FOR THE PRESENT SIMPLE TENSE (third person, he / she / it)

1. **Add –s** for most verbs:

work – works buy – buys ride – rides return - returns

2. **Add –es** for words that end in –ch, -s , -sh, -x, or –z.

watch – watches pass – passes rush – rushes relax – relaxes buzz - buzzes

3. **Change the –y to –i and add –es** when the base form ends in a consonant + y.

study – studies hurry – hurries dry - dries

Do **not** change the –y when the base form ends in a vowel + y. Add –s :

play – plays enjoy - enjoys

4. A few verbs have irregular forms:

be – is do – does go - goes have - has

SPELLING RULES FOR THE PRESENT CONTINUOUS TENSE

1. **Add –ing** to the base form of the verb.

read – reading stand – standing jump – jumping

BUT...

2. Drop the final -e and add –ing if a verb ends in a silent –e,.

leave – leaving take – taking receive - receiving

3. Double the last consonant before adding –ing in a **one-syllable word**, if the last three letters are consonant-vowel-consonant combination:

sit – sitting run – running hop - hopping

However, do **not** double the last consonant in word that end in w, x, or y.

sew – sewing fix – fixing enjoy - enjoying

4. In words of **two or more syllables** that end in a consonant-vowel-consonant combination, double the last consonant **only** if the last syllable is stressed.

admit – admitting regret – regretting (stress on second syllable)

5. If a verb ends in –ie, change the –ie to y before adding -ing.

die – dying lie - lying

SPELLING RULES FOR PAST SIMPLE TENSE OF REGULAR VERBS

1. If the verb ends in a consonant, add –ed.

return – returned help – helped cook - cooked

2. If the verb ends in –e, add –d.

live – lived create – created die - died

3. In one-syllable words, if the verb ends in a consonant-vowel-consonant combination then double the last consonant and add -ed.

hop – hopped rub - rubbed

However, do not double one-syllable words ending in –w, -x, or –y.

bow – bowed play – played mix - mixed

4. In words of two or more syllables that end in consonant-vowel-consonant combination, double the last consonant **only if** the last syllable is stressed.

prefer - **preferred** (last syllable stressed) visit - visited (last syllable isn't stressed)

5. If the verb ends in a consonant + y, change the -y to -i and –ed.

worry – worried copy - copied

6. If the verb ends in a vowel +y, add -ed. (Do not change the –y to –i.)

play – played annoy - annoyed

Exception: pay - paid, lay - laid, say – said

BELOW YOU HAVE THE SAME RULES IN CHART FORM

SPELLING FOR 3RD PERSON SINGULAR (he / she / it) PRESENT SIMPLE TENSE

Verb	Rule	Examples
Most verbs	add -s	run - runs help – helps
Verbs ending in a consonant + y	change -y to -i and add -es	try - tries dry - dries
Verbs ending vowel + y	add -s	play – plays
Verbs ending in -ch, -sh, -ss, -s, -x	add -es	finish - finishes watch - watches
Verbs ending in -o	add -es	go - goes do - does

SPELLING RULES FOR PRESENT CONTINUOUS / PARTICIPLE

Verb	Rule	Examples
most verbs	add -ing	talk – talking look - looking
verbs ending in -e	take away the -e and add -ing	give - giving live - living
verbs ending in -ee	add -ing	free – freeing see - seeing
verbs ending in -ie	change -ie to -y and add -ing	die – dying lie - lying
verbs ending in one vowel + consonant	double the final consonant * and add -ing	run - running stop - stopping
verbs ending in two vowels + consonant	add -ing	read – reading lead - leading

* Except if the noun has 2 or more syllables and the last syllable is stressed: regret-regretting

SPELLING RULES FOR PAST SIMPLE / PARTICIPLE OF REGULAR VERBS

Verb	Rule	Examples
most verbs	add -ed	talk – talked watch - watched
verbs ending in -e or -ee	add -d	like – liked agree - agreed
verbs ending in consonant + y	change -y to -i and add -ed	study –studied try - tried
verbs ending in vowel + y	add -ed	enjoy – enjoyed play played
verbs ending in one vowel + consonant	double the final consonant* and add -ed	plan – planned stop - stopped
verbs ending in two vowels + consonant	add -ed	rain – rained

EXERCISES

SPELLING OF THE MAIN VERB - PRESENT SIMPLE: Complete the chart.

I / you / we / they	he / she / it	I / you / we / they	he / she / it
crash	crashes	stay	
teach		study	
try		miss	
like		say	
wash		mix	
worry		wear	
go		touch	
give		listen	
start		cry	
carry		live	
tie		want	

SPELLING OF PRESENT PARTICIPLE. Complete the chart:

Infinitive	-ing form	Infinitive	-ing form
drop	dropping	lie	
ride		win	
smile		make	
ask		wear	
drive		get	
dream		watch	
hit		jump	
shut		drink	

SPELLING OF PAST SIMPLE / PARTICIPLE OF REGULAR VERBS. Complete the chart:

Infinitive	Past simple	Infinitive	Past simple
want	wanted	enjoy	
live		marry	
carry		rain	
dance		listen	
look		rob	
stop		talk	
hope		plan	
ask		wash	

ANSWERS

I / you / we / they	he / she / it	I / you / we / they	he / she / it
crash	crashes	stay	stays
teach	teaches	study	studies
try	tries	miss	misses
like	likes	say	says
wash	washes	mix	mixes
worry	worries	wear	wears
go	goes	touch	touches
give	gives	listen	listens
start	starts	cry	cries
carry	carries	live	lives
tie	ties	want	wants

Infinitive	-ing form	Infinitive	-ing form
drop	dropping	lie	lying
ride	riding	win	winning
smile	smiling	make	making
ask	asking	wear	wearing
drive	driving	get	getting
dream	dreaming	watch	watching
hit	hitting	jump	jumping
shut	shutting	drink	drinking

Infinitive	Past simple	Infinitive	Past simple
want	wanted	enjoy	enjoyed
live	lived	marry	married
carry	carried	rain	rained
dance	danced	listen	listened
look	looked	rob	robbed
stop	stopped	talk	talked
hope	hoped	plan	planned
ask	asked	wash	washed