

Regular verb:

A regular verb forms its past tense and past participle by adding -d or -ed to the verb base. Sometimes the last consonant is doubled when adding -ed. If the last letter is "y", preceded by a consonant, it is changed to "i".

- consonant + -e: add "d"
smile -> smiled
imagine -> imagined

- one vowel, one consonant: double the consonant, add -ed
stop -> stopped
drop -> dropped

exceptions (do not double w, x, y): snowed, fixed

- consonant, "y": change "y" to "i", add -ed
study -> studied

- other: add -ed
look -> looked
thank -> thanked
rain -> rained

=====

The present participle is formed by adding -ing to the verb base. When the verb ends in -e, the -e is dropped when -ing is added.

Examples: look, looking; drive, driving

Irregular verb:

An irregular verb does NOT form its past and past participle by adding -d or -ed to the verb base. Its past and past participle forms do not follow a pattern and must be learned.

Rules For Using Irregular Verbs

Understand the problem.

All verbs, whether regular or irregular, have five forms [often called principal parts]. These forms are the infinitive, simple present, simple past, past participle, and present participle. The difference between a regular and an irregular verb is the formation of the simple past and past participle. Regular verbs are dependably consistent—the simple past ends in ed as does the past participle.

Check out this chart:

Infinitive	Simple Present	Simple Past	Past Participle	Present Participle
to laugh	laugh(s)	laughed	laughed	laughing
to start	start(s)	started	started	starting
to wash	wash(es)	washed	washed	washing
to wink	wink(s)	winked	winked	winking

In contrast, the simple past and past participle of irregular verbs can end in a variety of ways, with absolutely no consistent pattern. Here are some examples:

Infinitive	Simple Present	Simple Past	Past Participle	Present Participle
to drive	drive(s)	drove	driven	driving
to feel	feel(s)	felt	felt	feeling
to put	put(s)	put	put	putting
to swim	swim(s)	swam	swum	swimming

Writers make two frequent errors with irregular verbs. They either add an incorrect ed to the end of an irregular verb or accidentally interchange the simple past and past participle. Read this sentence:

Olivia feeled like exercising yesterday, so she putted on her bathing suit and droved to the YMCA, where she swum so far that only an extra large pepperoni pizza would satisfy her hunger.

What are the problems with this sentence? First, feeled should be felt. Next, putted needs to be put. The correct past tense of drive is drove. And we must change swum to swam.

Know the solution.

To avoid making mistakes with irregular verbs, learn the very long chart below.

The past participle (pp) is used in the past tense with:

I am pp,
I was pp,
I had pp,
and I have pp.

The verb "to be" (ser, estar) is a special case. It also has irregular present forms:

Infinitive	Simple Present	Simple Past	Past Participle	Present Participle
to be	am, is are	was, were	been	being (* HAVE only)

can could - poder
may might - poder
should

Simple Present	Pronun.	Spanish	Simple Past	Pronun.	Past Participle	Pronun.	Present Participle
abide(s)		aguantar	abided/abode		abided/abode		
arise(s)		surgir	arose		arisen		arising
awake(s)		despertar	awoke/awaked		awoken/awaked		
bear(s)		llevar, aguantar	bore		born		bearing
beat(s)	tu bit	pegar, batir, golpea	beat		beaten	bitn	beating
become(s)		hacerse, ponerse	became		become		becoming (* HAVE only)
befall(s)			befall		befallen		
beget(s)		engendrar	begot/begat		begotten		
begin(s)	tu biguín	comenzar	began	bigán	begun	bigún	beginning
behold(s)####							
bend(s)	tu bend	doblar, torcer	bent	bent	bent	bent	bending
beseech(es)		suplicar	besought/beseched		besought/beseched		
beset(s)			beset		beset		
bet(s)		apostar	bet/betted		bet/betted		betting
bid(s) [to command]			bade		bidden		bidding
bid(s) [to offer]		ofrecer	bid		bid		bidding
bind(s)		atar, amarrar	bound		bound		binding
bite(s)	tu báit	morder, picar	bit	bit	bitten, bit	bitn	biting
bleed(s)	tu blid	sangrar	bled	bled	bled	bled	bleeding
blow(s)	blóu	soplar	blew	blu	blown	blóun	blowing
break(s)	bréik	romper	broke	bróuk	broken	bróuken	breaking
breed(s)		criar	bred		bred		
bring(s)	bring	trae, llevar	brought	brot	brought	brot	bringing
broadcast(s)			broadcast(ed)		broadcast		
build(s)	bild	edificar, construir	built	bilt	built	bilt	building
burn(s)		quemar	burned/burnt		burned/burnt		
burst(s)		reventar(se), romper(se)	burst		burst		bursting
buy(s)	bái	comprar	bought	bot	bought	bot	buying
cast(s)		echar, lanzar	cast		cast		casting
catch(es)	cach	coger, agarrar	caught	cot	caught	cot	catching
chide(s)		reprender	chided		chided		
choose(s)	chus	adherirse, aferrarse	cleaved		cleaved		
cleave(s) (split)		partir, hender	cleft/clove		cleft/cloven		
cling(s)		pegarse, agarrarse	clung		clung		clinging
clothe(s)			clothed, clad		clothed, clad		
come(s)		venir, llegar	came		come		coming (* HAVE only)
cost(s)	cost	costar, valer	cost	cost	cost	cost	costing
creep(s)		arrastrarse	crept		crept		creeping
crow(s)			crowed, crew		crowed		
cut(s)	cat	cortar	cut	cat	cut	cat	cutting
dare(s)		atreverse	dared		dared		
deal(s)	dil	negociar, tramitar, operar	dealt	delt	dealt	delt	dealing
dig(s)		cavar, excavar	dug		dug		digging
dive(s)		tirarse, sumergirse	dived/dove		dived		diving (* HAVE only)
do(es)	du	hacer	did	did	done	dan	doing
draw(s)		tirar, sacar	drew		drawn		drawing

dream(s) (sleeping)		soñar	dreamt		dreamt		dreaming
dream(s) (imagine)			dreamed		dreamed		dreaming
drink(s)	drink	beber, tomar	drank	drank	drunk	drunk	drinking
drive(s)	dráiv	conducir, manejar	drove	dróuv	driven	driven	driving
dwelt(s)		morar, vivir	dwelt/dwelled		dwelt/dwelled		
eat(s)	it	comer	ate	eit	eaten	itn	eating
fall(s)	fol	caer	fell	fel	fallen	fólen	falling
feed(s)	fid	avivar, alimentar	fed	fed	fed	fed	feeding
feel(s)	fil	sentir	felt	felt	felt	felt	feeling
fight(s)	fáit	pelear, luchar	fought	fot	fought	fot	fighting
find(s)	fáind	hallar, encontrar	found	fáund	found	fáund	finding
flee(s)		huir	fled		fled		fleeing
fling(s)		lanzar, arrojar	flung		flung		flinging
fly(flies)	flái	volar	flew	flu	flown	flóun	flying
forbear(s)			forbore		forborne		
forbid(s)		prohibir	forbad(e)		forbidden		forbidding
forecast(s)			forecast(ed)		forecast(ed)		
foresee(s)			foresaw		foreseen		
foretell(s)			fortold		foretold		
forget(s)	forguét	olvidar	forgot	forgót	forgotten	forgóten	forgetting
forgive(s)	forguiv	perdonar	forgave	forguéiv	forgiven	forguiven	forgiving
forsake(s)		abandonar	forsook		forsaken		forsaking
freeze(s)		helar	froze		frozen		freezing
gainsay(s)			gainsaid		gainsaid		
get(s)	guet	obtener, conseguir	got	got	got	got	getting (* HAVE only)
gild(s)		dorar	gilded		gilded/gilt		
gird(s)		ceñir de, rodear de	girded/girt		girded/girt		
give(s)	guiv	dar	gave	guéiv	given	guiven	giving
go(es)	góu	ir	went	uént	gone	gon	going
grind(s)		moler, picar	ground		ground		
grow(s)	gróu	crecer	grew	gru	grown	gróun	growing
hang(s) (a person)		colgar	hanged		hung		hanging
hang(s) (a picture)		colgar	hung		hung		hanging
have(has)		tener	had		had		having (* HAVE only)
hear(s)	jier	oir	heard	jerd	heard	jerd	hearing
heave(s)		tirar, empujar	heaved/hove (Naut)		heaved/hove (Naut)		
hew(s)		cortar, tallar	hewed		hewn/hewed (US)		
hide(s)		esconder(se)	hid		hidden/hid		hiding
hit(s)		pegar, golpear	hit		hit		hitting
hold(s)		tener, abrazar	held		held		holding
hurt(s)		lastimar, perjudicar	hurt		hurt		hurting
inlay(s)			inlaid		inlaid		
keep(s)	kip	guardar	kept	kept	kept	kept	keeping
kneel(s)		arrodillarse	knelt/kneeled		knelt/kneeled		
knit(s)			knit, knitted		knit, knitted		
know(s)	nóu	saber	knew	niú	known	nóun	knowing
lay(s) (in place)		poner, colocar	laid		laid		laying
lead(s)		llevar, guiar	led		led		leading
lean(s)		apoyarse	leaned/leant		leaned/leant		
leap(s)		saltar	leaped/leapt		leaped/leapt		leaping
learn(s)		aprender	learned/learnt		learned/learnt		
leave(s)	liv	dejar, partir	left	left	left	left	leaving

lend(s)	lend	prestar	lent	lent	lent	lent	lending
let(s)	let	permitir, dejar	let	let	let	let	letting (* HAVE only)
lie(s) (rest)		tenderse, acostarse	lay		lain		lying
lie(s) (tell a lie)		mentir	lied		lied		lying
light(s)		encender, iluminar	lit/lighted		lit/lighted		lighting
lose(s)	lus	perder	lost	lost	lost	lost	losing
make(s)	méik	hacer	made	méid	made	méid	making
mean(s)	min	significar	meant	ment	meant	ment	meaning
meet(s)	mit	encontrarse, conocer	met	met	met	met	meating
mislaid(s)			mislaid		mislaid		
mislead(s)			misled		misled		
misspell(s)			misspelt		misspelt		
mistake(s)			mistook		mistaken		
misunderstand(s)			misunderstood		misunderstood		
mow(s)		segar, cortar	mowed		mowed/mown		
outbid(s)			outbid		outbid		
outdo(es)			outdid		outdone		
outgrow(s)			outgrew		outgrown		
overcome(s)			overcame		overcome		
overdo(es)			overdid		overdone		
overhand(s)			overhung		overhung		
overhear(s)			overheard		overheard		
override(s)			overrode		overridden		
overrun(s)			overran		overrun		
oversee(s)			oversaw		overseen		
overshoot(s)			overshot		overshot		
oversleep(s)			overslept		overslept		
overtake(s)			overtook		overtaken		
overthrow(s)			overthrew		overthrown		
partake(s)			partook		partaken		
pay(s)	péi	pagar	paid	péid	paid	peid	paying
prove(s)			proved		proved or proven		proving
put(s)	put	poner, meter	put	put	put	put	putting
quit(s)		renunciar, abandonar	quit/quitted		quit/quitted		quitting (* HAVE only)
rebuild(s)			rebuilt		rebuilt		
redo(es)			redid		redone		
rend(s)		rasgar, desgarrar	rent		rent		
repay(s)			repaid		repaid		
rewrite(s)			rewrote		rewritten		
rid(s)		deshacerse de	rid/riddled		rid/riddled		ridding
ride(s)		montar en, ir en	rode		ridden		riding
ring(s)		llamar, sonar	rang		rung		ringing
rise(s)		levantarse, elevarse	rose		risen		rising
run(s)	ran	correr	ran	ran**	run	ran	running
saw(s)		serrar	sawed		sawed/sawn		
say(s)	séi	decir	said	sed	said	sed	saying
see(s)	si	ver	saw	so	seen	sin	seeing
seek(s)		buscar	sought		sought		seeking
sell(s)	sel	vender	sold	sóuld	sold	sóuld	selling
send(s)	send	enviar	sent	sent	sent	sent	sending
set(s)		poner	set		set		setting
sew(s)		coser	sewed		sewed/sewn		sewing

shake(s)		sacudir, mover	shook		shaken		shaking
shave(s)		afeitar(se), rasurar(se)	shaved		shaved/shaven		
shear(s)		esquilar	sheared		sheared/shorn		
shed(s)		derramar	shed		shed		
shine(s)		brillar, sacar brillo a	shone/shined		shone/shined		shining
shoe(s)		herrar	shod/shoed		shod/shoed		
shoot(s)		pegar un tiro a	shot		shot		shooting
show(s)		mostrar	showed		shown/showed		showing
shrink(s)		encoger(se)	shrank		shrunk		shrinking
shut(s)		cerrar	shut		shut		shutting
sing(s)		cantar	sang		sung		singing
sink(s)		hundir	sank or sunk		sunk		sinking
sit(s)		sentarse	sat		sat		sitting (* HAVE only)
slay(s)		matar	slew		slain		slaying
sleep(s)	slip	dormir	slept	slept	slept	slept	sleeping (* HAVE only)
slide(s)		deslizarse	slid		slid		
sling(s)		lanzar	slung		slung		slinging
slink(s)		zafarse	slunk		slunk		
slit(s)		cortar, abrir	slit/slitted		slit/slitted		
smell(s)		oler	smelled/smelt		smelled/smelt		
smite(s)		golpear	smote		smitten		
sneak(s)			sneaked or snuck		sneaked or snuck		sneaking
sow(s)		sembrar	sowed		sowed/sown		
speak(s)	spik	hablar	spoke	spóuk	spoken	spóuken	speaking
speed(s)		correr a toda prisa	sped/speeded		sped/speeded		
spell(s)		deletrear	spelt/spelled		spelt/spelled		
spend(s)	spend	gastar	spent	spent	spent	spent	spending
spill(s)		derramar	spilt/spilled		spilt/spilled		
spin(s)		hacer girar	spun/span		spun		spinning
spit(s)		ensartar, escupir	spitted/spat		spitted/spat		
split(s)		dividir	split		split		
spoil(s)		arruinar	spoiled/spoilt		spoiled/spoilt		
spread(s)		tender, desplegar	spread		spread		spreading
spring(s)		saltar	sprang or sprung		sprung		springing
stand(s)	tu stand	pararse, estar de pie	stood	stud	stood??**	stud	standing (* HAVE only)
stave(s)		evitar, aplazar	stove/staved		stove/staved		
steal(s)		robar	stole		stolen		stealing
stick(s)		pegar	stuck		stuck		sticking
sting(s)		picar	stung		stung		stinging
stink(s)		apestar	stank or stunk		stunk		stinking
strew(s)		esparcir	strewed		strewed/strewn		
stride(s)		andar a pasos largos	strode		stridden		striding
strike(s)		golpear, pegar	struck		struck/stricken		striking
string(s)		ensartar, encordar	strung		strung		
strive(s)		esforzarse	strove		striven		striving
swear(s)		jurar	swore		sworn		swearing
sweep(s)		barrer	swept		swept		sweeping
swell(s)		hincharse	swelled		swollen/swelled		
swim(s)		nadar	swam		swum		swimming
swing(s)		balancearse, oscilar	swung		swung		swinging
take(s)	téik	tomar	took	tuk	taken	téiken	taking
teach(es)	tich	enseñar	taught	tot	taught	tot	teaching

tear(s)		romper	tore		torn		tearing
tell(s)	tel	contar, decir	told	tóuld	told	tóuld	telling
think(s)	zink	pensar	thought	zot	thought	zot	thinking
thrive(s)		prosperar	throve/thrived		thriven/thrived		
throw(s)		echar	threw		thrown		throwing
thrust(s)		empujar, clavar	thrust		thrust		
tread(s)		pisar	trod		trodden		
unbend(s)			unbent		unbent		
undergo(es)			underwent		undergone		
understand(s)	anderstånd	comprender	understood	anderstud	understood	anderstud	understanding
undertake(s)			undertook		undertaken		
undo(es)			undid		undone		
upset(s)			upset		upset		
wake(s)		despertar(se)	woke/waked		woken/waked		waking
waylay(s)			waylaid		waylaid		
wear(s)		llevar	wore		worn		wearing
weave(s)		tejer	wove/weaved		woven/weaved		weaving
weep(s)		llorar	wept		wept		weeping
win(s)		ganar	won		won		winning
wind(s)		dejar sin aliento, ovillar	winded/wound		winded/wound		
withdraw(s)			withdrew		withdrawn		
withhold(s)			withheld		withheld		
withstand(s)			withstood		withstood		
wring(s)		torcer	wrung		wrung		wringing
write(s)	ráit	escribir	wrote	róut	written	riten	writing
read(s)	rid	leer	read**	red	read**	red	reading

** past tense of read is spelled the same as the present, but pronounced differently

(* HAVE only).....not used with I AM PP or I WAS PP.

In addition to learning the chart above, you must also understand the difference between the simple past and past participle. A simple past tense verb always has just one part. You need no auxiliary verb to form this tense. An auxiliary verb is used with the main verb to help clarify the grammar or meaning in a sentence.

Look at these examples:

Because dinner time was near, my dog Oreo bit the spine of Moby Dick and pulled the novel off my lap.

Since Denise had ignored bills for so long, she wrote out checks for an hour straight.

Despite the noise, jolts, and jerks, Alex slept so soundly on the city bus that he missed his stop.

Many multipath verbs, however, require the past participle after one or more auxiliary verbs. Read these sentences:

Raymond had bitten into the muffin before Charise mentioned that it was her infamous chocolate-broccoli variety.

had = auxiliary verb; bitten = past participle

Once Woody has written his essay for Mr. Stover, he plans to reward himself with a packet of Twinkies.

has = auxiliary verb; written = past participle

Cynthia might have slept better if she hadn't watched The Nightmare on Elm Street marathon on HBO.

might, have = auxiliary verbs; slept = past participle

For regular verbs, knowing the distinction between the simple past and past participle is unnecessary because both are identical. Check out these two sentences:

Diane giggled as her beagle Reliable pushed his cold wet nose into her stomach, searching for cookie crumbs.

giggled = simple past

Until the disapproving Mrs. Whitman elbowed Latoya in the ribs, the young girl had giggled without stop at the toilet paper streamer attached to Principal Clemens's shoe.

had = auxiliary verb; giggled = past participle

When you choose an irregular verb for a sentence, however, the simple past and past participle are often different, so you must know the distinction. Here are two examples:

Essie drove so cautiously that traffic piled up behind her, causing angry drivers to honk their horns and shout obscenities.

drove = simple past

Essie might have driven faster if she hadn't forgotten her glasses and saw more than big colored blurs through the windshield.

might, have = auxiliary verbs; driven = past participle

In addition, past participles can function as adjectives in sentences, describing other words, When you use a past participle in this manner, you must choose the correct form. Read these sentences:

The calculus exams given by Dr. Ribtey are so difficult that his students believe their brains will burst.

Delores discovered the stolen bologna under the sofa, guarded fiercely by Max, her Chihuahua.

The written reprimand so shamed poor Pablo that he promised his boss never again to throw a scoop of ice cream at a customer.

Remember that you can always consult a dictionary when you have a question about the correct form of an irregular verb.

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