

Different ways to form the past participle

- 1) the most common way to form the past participle is by
 - removing the “en” from the verb, thus gaining the verb stem,
 - putting a “ge” in front of and a “t” at the end of the stem

Beispiel:

leben ge leb t
wohnen ge wohn t

this the basic standard way

- 2) verbs that end with “ieren” and verbs with inseparable prefixes do not get a “ge”
their past participle is identical with the present tense third singular form

Beispiel: telefonieren	er/sie/es telefoniert	past participle: <u>telefoniert</u>
studieren	er/sie/es studiert	past participle: <u>studiert</u>
<u>besuchen</u>	er/sie/es <u>besucht</u>	past participle: <u>besucht</u>

overview over the most common inseparable prefixes:

be
emp-, ent-, er-,
ge-, miss-,
ver-, zer-

- 3) verbs with separable prefixes

The “ge” is placed between the separable prefix and the verb

Beispiel: aufräumen	auf ge räum t
einkaufen	ein ge kauf t

- 4) irregular verbs

As the name already indicates, these forms are build irregularly, so you have to memorize their individual past participle :(sorry! (but that’s the same in English too, right?)

We will keep a list and add new verbs as we go.