

## Regular and Irregular Verbs

Luckily for us, most verbs in English are *regular verbs*. This means that we can be confident with the forms they take because they follow a predictable pattern. Those verbs that don't follow the basic rules are called *irregular verbs*.

The *past tense* and *past participle* of **regular** verbs can be formed by adding "ed" to the end of the verb root. If the verb already ends with an "e," then we simply add a "d." The *present participle* of regular verbs is formed by adding "ing" to the end of the root. (A participle is a word formed from a verb and used in a verb phrase or as a noun or adjective.)

Here are some examples of regular verbs in their various forms:

<i>Present</i>	<i>Past</i>	<i>Past Participle</i>	<i>Present Participle</i>
cough	cough <u>ed</u>	cough <u>ed</u>	cough <u>ing</u>
dance	danc <u>ed</u>	danc <u>ed</u>	danc <u>ing</u>

On the other hand, the past tense and past participle of **irregular** verbs vary, so you must memorize the changes. Here is a partial list of irregular verbs with their past and past participle forms. You will want to refer to this list or a dictionary if you are unsure of a verb form.

<i>Present</i>	<i>Past</i>	<i>Past Participle</i>
Arise	arose	arisen
Awake	awoke	awoke
Be (am, are, is)	was (were)	been
Become	became	become
Begin	began	begun
Bend	bent	bent
Bite	bit	bitten
Blow	blew	blown
Break	broke	broken
Bring	brought	brought
Build	built	built
Buy	bought	bought
Catch	caught	caught
Choose	chose	chosen
Come	came	come
Do (does)	did	done
Draw	drew	drawn
Drink	drank	drunk
Drive	drove	driven
Eat	ate	eaten
Fall	fell	fallen
Feed	fed	fed
Feel	felt	felt

Fight	fought	fought
Find	found	found
Fly	flew	flown
Freeze	froze	frozen
Get	got	got <i>or</i> gotten
Give	gave	given
Go (goes)	went	gone
Grow	grew	grown
Have (has)	had	had
Hear	heard	heard
Hide	hid	hidden
Hold	held	held
Hurt	hurt	hurt
Keep	kept	kept
Know	knew	known
Lay	laid	laid
Lead	led	led
Leave	left	left
Lend	lent	lent
Lie	lay	lain
Light	lit	lit
Lose	lost	lost
Make	made	made
Meet	met	met
Pay	paid	paid
Ride	rode	ridden
Ring	rang	rung
Rise	rose	risen
Run	ran	run
Say	said	said
See	saw	seen
Sell	sold	sold
Send	sent	sent
Shake	shook	shaken
Shrink	shrank	shrunk
Sing	sang	sung
Sleep	slept	slept
Speak	spoke	spoken
Spend	spent	spent
Stand	stood	stood
Steal	stole	stolen
Swear	swore	sworn
Swim	swam	swum
Take	took	taken
Teach	taught	taught
Tear	tore	torn
Tell	told	told
Think	thought	though
Wake	woke <i>or</i> waked	woken <i>or</i> waked
Wear	wore	worn
Write	wrote	written