

E-9 Irregular Verbs: An Alphabetical Reference List

NOTE: Verbs followed by a bullet (•) are defined at the end of the this list.

Simple Form	Simple Past	Past Participle	Simple Form	Simple Past	Past Participle
arise	arose	arisen	forbid	forbade	forbidden
awake	awoke	awoken	forecast•	forecast	forecast
be	was, were	been	forget	forgot	forgotten
bear	bore	borne/born	forgive	forgave	forgiven
beat	beat	beaten/beat	forsake•	forsook	forsaken
become	became	become	freeze	froze	frozen
begin	began	begun	get	got	gotten/got*
bend	bent	bent	give	gave	given
bet•	bet	bet	go	went	gone
bid•	bid	bid	grind•	ground	ground
bind•	bound	bound	grow	grew	grown
bite	bit	bitten	hang**	hung	hung
bleed	bled	bled	have	had	had
blow	blew	blown	hear	heard	heard
break	broke	broken	hide	hid	hidden
breed•	bred	bred	hit	hit	hit
bring	brought	brought	hold	held	held
broadcast•	broadcast	broadcast	hurt	hurt	hurt
build	built	built	keep	kept	kept
burn	burned/burnt	burned/burnt	kneel	kneeled/knelt	kneeled/knelt
burst•	burst	burst	know	knew	known
buy	bought	bought	lay	laid	laid
cast•	cast	cast	lead	led	led
catch	caught	caught	lean	leaned/leant	leaned/leant
choose	chose	chosen	leap	leaped/leapt	leaped/leapt
cling•	clung	clung	learn	learned/learnt	learned/learnt
come	came	come	leave	left	left
cost	cost	cost	lend	lent	lent
creep•	crept	crept	let	let	let
cut	cut	cut	lie	lay	lain
deal•	dealt	dealt	light	lighted/lit	lighted/lit
dig	dug	dug	lose	lost	lost
do	did	done	make	made	made
draw	drew	drawn	mean	meant	meant
dream	dreamed/dreamt	dreamed/dreamt	meet	met	met
drink	drank	drunk	mislay	mislaid	mislaid
drive	drove	driven	mistake	mistook	mistaken
eat	ate	eaten	pay	paid	paid
fall	fell	fallen	prove	proved	proven/proved
feed	fed	fed	put	put	put
feel	felt	felt	quit***	quit	quit
fight	fought	fought	read	read	read
find	found	found	rid	rid	rid
fit	fit/fitted	fit/fitted	ride	rode	ridden
flee•	fled	fled	ring	rang	rung
fling•	flung	flung	rise	rose	risen
fly	flew	flown			

*In British English: *get–got–got*. In American English: *get–got–gotten/got*.

***Hang* is a regular verb when it means to kill someone with a rope around his/her neck.

COMPARE: *I hung my clothes in the closet. They hanged the murderer by the neck until he was dead.*

***Also possible in British English: *quit–quitted–quitted*.

Simple Form	Simple Past	Past Participle	Simple Form	Simple Past	Past Participle
run	ran	run	spring•	sprang/sprung	sprung
say	said	said	stand	stood	stood
see	saw	seen	steal	stole	stolen
seek•	sought	sought	stick	stuck	stuck
sell	sold	sold	sting•	stung	stung
send	sent	sent	stink•	stank/stunk	stunk
set	set	set	strike•	struck	struck/stricken
shake	shook	shaken	strive•	strove/strived	striven/strived
shed•	shed	shed	string	strung	strung
shine	shone/shined	shone/shined	swear	swore	sworn
shoot	shot	shot	sweep	swept	swept
show	showed	shown/showed	swell	swelled	swelled/swollen
shrink•	shrank/shrunk	shrunk	swim	swam	swum
shut	shut	shut	swing•	swung	swung
sing	sang	sung	take	took	taken
sink•	sank	sunk	teach	taught	taught
sit	sat	sat	tear	tore	torn
sleep	slept	slept	tell	told	told
slide•	slid	slid	think	thought	thought
slit•	slit	slit	throw	threw	thrown
smell	smelled/smelt	smelled/smelt	thrust•	thrust	thrust
sneak	sneaked/snuck	sneaked/snuck	understand	understood	understood
speak	spoke	spoken	undertake	undertook	undertaken
speed	sped/speeded	sped/speeded	upset	upset	upset
spell	spelled/spelt	spelled/spelt	wake	woke/waked	woken
spend	spent	spent	wear	wore	worn
spill	spilled/spilt	spilled/spilt	weave•	wove	woven
spin•	spun	spun	weep•	wept	wept
spit	spit/spat	spit/spat	win	won	won
split•	split	split	wind•	wound	wound
spoil	spoiled/spoilt	spoiled/spoilt	withdraw	withdrew	withdrawn
spread•	spread	spread	write	wrote	written

•Definitions of some of the less frequently used irregular verbs:

bet wager; offer to pay money if one loses	forecast predict a future occurrence	spring jump or rise suddenly from a still position
bid make an offer of money, usually at a public sale	forsake abandon or desert	sting cause pain with a sharp object (e.g., pin) or bite (e.g., by an insect)
bind fasten or secure	grind crush, reduce to small pieces	stink have a bad or foul smell
breed bring animals together to produce young	seek look for	strike hit something with force
broadcast send information by radio waves; announce	shed drop off or get rid of	strive try hard to achieve a goal
burst explode; break suddenly	shrink become smaller	swing move back and forth
cast throw	sink move downward, often under water	thrust push forcibly; shove
cling hold on tightly	slide glide smoothly; slip or skid	weave form by passing pieces of material over and under each other (as in making baskets, cloth)
creep crawl close to the ground; move slowly and quietly	slit cut a narrow opening	weep cry
deal distribute playing cards to each person; give attention to (deal with)	spin turn rapidly around a central point	wind (sounds like <i>find</i>) turn around and around
flee escape; run away	split divide into two or more parts	
fling throw with force	spread push out in all directions (e.g., butter on bread, news)	

Form Present Simple

HELPFUL HINTS

S + verb + object ...

I/we/they/you + like + tea.
He/she/it + likes + tea.

Use it for ...

- * Facts.
- * Habitual actions.
- * Things that don't/won't change.
- * Describing yourself.

S + don't/doesn't + verb + object ...

I + don't + like + tea.
She + doesn't + like + tea.

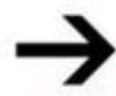
Signal words

- Adverbs of frequency, like:
- * Often
 - * Usually
 - * Sometimes
 - * Never

Do/Does + S + verb + object?

Do + you/we/they/I + like + tea?
Does + he/she/it + like + tea?

BUT REMEMBER



- *** The verb 'to be' is different ***
- I + am (Australian.)
 - He/she/it + is (clever.)
 - you/we/they + are (nice.)

Form Present Continuous

HELPFUL HINTS

I + am + verb(ing)
He/she/it + is + verb(ing)
They/we/you + are + verb(ing)

I am reading a book.
He/she/it is watching TV.
They/we/you are playing tennis.

Use it for ...

- * Things happening NOW.
- * Temporary actions.
- * Things that will change.
- * Describing a current action.

I + am + not + verb(ing)
He/she/it + isn't + verb(ing)
They/we/you + aren't + verb(ing)

I am not reading a book.
He/she/it isn't watching TV.
They/we/you aren't playing tennis.

Signal words

- * At the moment
- * Right now
- * Currently

Are + they/we/you + verb(ing)?
Is + he/she/it + verb(ing)?
Am + I + verb(ing)?

Am I reading a book?
Is he/she/it watching TV?
Are they/you/we playing tennis?

REMEMBER

Present Continuous can also be used for the future. We use it for things that we have made definite arrangements to do:

- * 'I am having dinner with my friend tonight.'
- * 'I am playing football with my team this weekend.'

