

The pronunciation of the past (and past participle) of the regular verbs (- ed)

- When a regular verb ends with a voiced sound, the **ed** is pronounced /d/.
- When a regular verb ends with a voiceless sound, the **ed** is pronounced /t/.
- When a regular verb ends in /t/ or /d/, the **ed** is pronounced /ɪd/.

PRESENCE OR ABSENCE OF VOICE

Voiced sounds: the edges of the vocal cords are touching each other, or nearly touching, so the air passing through the glottis will usually cause **vibration**.

Voiceless sounds: vocal cords are wide apart, as for /p, f, s/, so the air escapes freely through the mouth.

= Remember that past participles are very often used as adjectives: developed**ed** countries, married**ed** couple, isolated**ed** country, blockaded**ed** island.

Take a look at the table below and repeat five of the verbs of each column.

-ed = /d/ voiced sound + -ed	-ed = /t/ voiceless sound + -ed	-ed = /ɪd / after final consonants -t /-d
agree - agreed	ask - asked	assist - assisted
allow - allowed	cook - cooked	collect - collected
arrive - arrived	finish - finished	depend - depended
beg - begged	help - helped	hate - hated
call - called	hope - hoped	intend - intended
change - changed	triumph - triumphed	blockade - blockaded
die - died	laugh - laughed	need - needed
frighten - frightened	like - liked	need - needed
join - joined	pack - packed	paint - painted
live - lived	push - pushed	record - recorded
marry - married	stop - stopped	rent - rented
move - moved	type - typed	start - started
open - opened	wash - washed	treat - treated
play - played	watch - watched	visit - visited
seem - seemed	wish - wished	wait - waited
occur - occurred	work - worked	want - wanted
cancel - canceled	develop - developed	isolate - isolated
threaten - threatened	force - forced	graduate - graduated

⇒ Exercise 1

Although the spelling is usually the same, the pronunciation of the endings of regular verbs in the past tense is different. Listen to your teacher say the verb and then circle which sound you think was spoken for each word.

1.	combed	/d/	/t/	/ɪd/	1.	turned	/d/	/t/	/ɪd/
2.	brushed	/d/	/t/	/ɪd/	2.	touched	/d/	/t/	/ɪd/
3.	learned	/d/	/t/	/ɪd/	3.	pointed	/d/	/t/	/ɪd/
4.	studied	/d/	/t/	/ɪd/	4.	opened	/d/	/t/	/ɪd/
5.	worked	/d/	/t/	/ɪd/	5.	laughed	/d/	/t/	/ɪd/
6.	waited	/d/	/t/	/ɪd/	6.	loved	/d/	/t/	/ɪd/
7.	closed	/d/	/t/	/ɪd/	7.	stopped	/d/	/t/	/ɪd/
8.	decided	/d/	/t/	/ɪd/	8.	crowded	/d/	/t/	/ɪd/
9.	shaved	/d/	/t/	/ɪd/	9.	washed	/d/	/t/	/ɪd/
10.	cooked	/d/	/t/	/ɪd/	10.	walked	/d/	/t/	/ɪd/

➤ Exercise 2

Read the sentences in silence, then,

- a) Write next to each *italicized* word its final sound(s) /t/, /d/, or /ɪd/.
 - b) Read each of these words individually focusing on the final sound(s) /t/, /d/, or /ɪd/. Make sure you understand the meaning.
 - c) Then, be ready to read each sentence out loud.
1. The children begged / / their parents to let them go the park. They played / / and laughed / / all day.
 2. The married / / couple enjoyed / / the honeymoon and decided / / to repeat it.
 3. They needed / / to learn the difference between voiced / / and voiceless sounds.
 4. The squeezed / / oranges tasted / / very well and the steamed / / fish was delicious.
 5. The middle-aged / / woman threatened / / the man and forced / / him to stop.
 6. They graduated / / last year and then requested / / to be included / / in the post-graduate course organized / / by the university.
 7. Cuba has been a blockaded / / country since the Revolution triumphed / / in 1959, but it has never been isolated / / from the peoples of the world, who have supported / / our cause despite the pressure from the US governments.
 8. On the weekend, the whole family cleaned / / , painted / / , and dusted / / the whole house. They also changed / / the furniture and redecorated / / it.