

Pronunciation of "ed" and "s"

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Both "ed" and "s" are pronounced three different ways at the ends of words, and the rules are similar.

Sounds are unvoiced if your vocal cords are open when you make a sound.



They are "voiced" if your vocal cords are engaged (i.e., closed somewhat and vibrating).



"ed" for regular past tense forms

Group 1 (t) <small>(after unvoiced sounds)</small>	Group 2 (d) <small>(after unvoiced sounds)</small>	Group 3 new syllable (əd) <small>(after the letters t and d)</small>
f laughed	v loved	t wanted
k liked	g hugged	waited
p stopped	b robbed	d added
s kissed	z buzzed	worded
ch watched	j changed	
sh washed		
ALL VOWELS: showed, shoed, etc.		

"s" for plurals, possessives and 3rd person sing. Present

Group 1 (s) <small>(after unvoiced sounds)</small>	Group 2 (z) <small>(after unvoiced sounds)</small>	Group 3 new syllable (əz) <small>(after the letters s, x, ch, sh, and j)</small>
f laughs	v loves	s kisses
k likes	g hugs	z buzzes
looks		x boxes
p stops	b robs	ch watches
t wants	d adds	sh washes
ALL VOWELS: shoes, pays, etc.		
j changes		

How to Pronounce "-ed" Endings.

When the "ED" ending is added to any regular verb to form the simple past tense, it is pronounced as follows:

1. If the verb ends in t or d, PRONOUNCE THE "ed" AS A ^(SECOND OR THIRD) SEPARATE SYLLABLE (əd).

Examples: wait	waited (waɪtəd)	plant	planted (plɑntəd)
decide	decided (dɪsɪdəd)	want	wanted (wɑntəd)
accept	accepted (əkseptəd)	need	needed (ni:dəd)

2. If the verb ends in any ^(unvoiced) voiceless sound (except t), PRONOUNCE THE "ed" AS (t).

Examples: walk	walked (wɔkt)	ask	asked (ɑskt)
increase	increased (ɪnkri:st)	notice	noticed (nəʊtɪst)
work	worked (wɜ:kt)	stop	stopped (stɒpt)

3. If the verb ends in any voiced sound (except d), PRONOUNCE THE "ed" AS (d).

Examples: live	lived (lɪvd)	follow	followed (fɒləʊd)
explain	explained (ɪkspləɪnd)	learn	learned (lɜ:nd)
mail	mailed (meɪld)	clean	cleaned (kli:nd)