




PRONUNCIATION OF -ed PAST ENDINGS

1 T3.1 Listen to the beginnings of three stories. Notice the way the -ed verb endings are pronounced.

- 1 Last night Bert stopped at the supermarket on his way home.
- 2 Yesterday afternoon Fred called a restaurant to book a table for two.
- 3 Yesterday evening David invited Amanda to dinner.

2 T3.2 The rest of the stories are mixed up. Listen as you read, and sort the sentences into columns, according to the pronunciation of the -ed verb endings.

- 4 He arranged a meeting with his daughter there.
- 5 He cooked a big supper for his wife and children.
- 6 He decided to cook her favourite meal.
- 7 He washed up after supper.
- 8 They ordered a lot of the most expensive things on the menu.
- 9 They watched a good film on TV after the meal.
- 10 They enjoyed it a lot.
- 11 The food was wasted because she didn't come.
- 12 They arrived home after midnight.

 Bert /t/	 Fred /d/	 David /ɪd/
1	2	3

⚠ Sometimes it is difficult to hear the difference between the /t/ and /d/ endings. When the verb is linked to the next word because that word starts with a vowel sound, the endings are much clearer.

5 T3.4 Listen to the linking.

She laughed ^{/t/} at the joke.

T3.5 Listen and practise reading the sentences. Click on the icon and record yourself:

 1. She walked all day. 



 2. We watched it carefully. 

Here are the rules for the pronunciation of the -ed endings:

- If the verb ends in the sound /t/ or /d/, we pronounce the -ed ending /ɪd/. Example *invited* /ɪn'vaɪtɪd/.
- If the verb ends in a voiced consonant sound apart from /d/ (/b/, /g/, /v/, /z/, /ð/, /ʒ/, /dʒ/, /l/, /m/, /n/, /ŋ/), or a vowel, we pronounce the -ed ending /d/. Example *called* /kɔːld/.
- If the verb ends in a voiceless consonant sound apart from /t/ (/p/, /k/, /f/, /s/, /θ/, /ʃ/ or /tʃ/), we pronounce the -ed ending /t/. Example *stopped* /stɒpt/.


3 Check the meaning and pronunciation of these verbs in a dictionary.



answer	laugh	show	believe
walk	mend	try	start
plan	watch	wash	carry

4 Write the past tense form of each verb in the correct column below. (Take care with the spelling!)

/t/	/d/	/ɪd/
	answered	




 3. They answered everybody's questions.

 4. He tried a piece. 



 5. They planned it a week ago.

 6. It washed all the glasses beautifully. 