Pronunciation Practice Exercises for final “ed”

The “ed” simple past ending can be pronounced three ways: a /t/ sound, a /d/ sound, or an extra syllable /ed/. The pronunciation of the “ed” depends on the final sound of the base verb.

All verbs ending in a voiceless sound make the “ed” say /t/. Voiceless sounds are made by pushing air through your mouth; no sound comes from your throat.	**All verbs ending in a voiced sound made the “ed” say /d/. Voiced sounds come from your throat. If you touch your throat when you make a voiced sound, you can feel the vibration.**	**Verbs ending in T or D need the extra syllable /ed/.**
Voiceless sounds: /k/, ch, /f/, /h/, /p/, /s/, sh, x,	Voiced sounds: all vowel sounds, /b/, /g/, j, /l/, /m/, /n/, /r/, /v/, /w/, /z/	Example: walk → walk/t/ = one syllable act → act/ed/ = two syllables
Examples: dance → dance/t/ watch → watch/t/	**Examples:** cover → cover/d/ open → open/d/	**Examples:** decide → decid/ed/ want → want/ed

Say the following words out loud and put them in the correct columns according to the sound of the regular past “ed”:

added	burned	helped	popped	printed	played	used
snowed	bolted	rushed	offended	heated	hugged	earned
counted	boxed	folded	flapped	hissed	saved	faced

/t/	/d/	/ed/

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