

The Simple Past: Affirmative and Negative Statements

I / You / He / She / We / They	visited didn't visit	Tokyo.
I / You / He / She / We / They	started didn't start	a company.

In the simple past tense, the verb form is the same for all persons.

In affirmative statements, add *-ed* or *-d*. See the spelling rules below.

In negative statements, use *did not* or *didn't* + the base form of the verb.

The Simple Past Tense of Regular Verbs: Spelling Rules

move → moved	If the verb ends in <i>e</i> , add <i>-d</i> .
start → started	If the verb ends with a consonant, add <i>-ed</i> .
study → studied	If the verb ends with a consonant + <i>y</i> , change the <i>y</i> to <i>i</i> and add <i>-ed</i> .
play → played	If the verb ends with a vowel + <i>y</i> , add <i>-ed</i> .
stop → stopped	With one-syllable verbs that end with a consonant–vowel–consonant, double the last letter and add <i>-ed</i> .
fix → fixed	But do not double the last consonant if it is a <i>w</i> or <i>x</i> .
occur → occurred	With two-syllable verbs that end with a consonant–vowel–consonant, double the last consonant if the last syllable is stressed.
listen → listened	But do not double the last consonant if the last syllable is not stressed.

Make sentences about things you did or didn't do yesterday. Use the verbs.

1. walk to school _____ *I didn't walk to school.*
2. text a friend _____
3. listen to a song in English _____
4. study for a test _____
5. cook dinner _____
6. watch TV _____
7. hug my mom _____
8. wash my hair _____