

PAST SIMPLE

Main theme addressed	In this lesson, you will learn about the Past Simple.
Key Goals	Here is an outline of what you will learn today: 1. What is the Past Simple? 2. When do we use the Past Simple? 3. How do we pronounce -ed?

1. What is the Past Simple?

The Past Simple is used to talk about a **finished** action that happened in the past.

The action can have happened in the recent past or have lasted for **any period of time**.

- For regular verbs, the **affirmative form** is as follows:

Base of the main verb + -ed

Examples:

To arrive → **arrived**

To cook → **cooked**

→ **Irregular verbs need to be learnt by heart.**

You can check the list in the lesson about irregular verbs.

- For all verbs (regular and irregular), the **negative form** is as follows:

Did not (didn't) + Base form of the main verb

Examples:

To arrive → didn't arrive

To cook → didn't cook

- For all verbs (regular and irregular), the **interrogative form** is as follows:

Did + subject + Base form of the main verb

Examples:

To go → Did you go?

To cook → Did you cook?

- For all verbs (regular and irregular), the **negative interrogative form** is as follows:

Did + subject + Base form of the main verb

Examples:

To go → **Didn't** you go?

To cook → **Didn't** you cook?

Note: Questions with “**Who**” are slightly different.

Who **cooked** this meal?

Who **broke** the vase?

2. When do we use the Past Simple?

We use the Past Simple in different occasions:

- For actions that happened once in the past

Examples:

He went to Disneyland in 2004.

He retired at the age of 65.

- For actions that happened several times in the past

Examples:

We took the bus to school every day.

I played tennis a lot when I was on holiday.

- For things that were true in the past

Examples:

I lived in London for half a year.

I didn't like popcorn when I was a kid.

- In expressions with the word "ago"

Examples:

We became best friends a long time ago.

I met my colleagues one year ago.

Exercise:

Rewrite the following sentences with the verb in brackets at the Past Simple.

1. (You wait) for him to come back?

_____.

2. I (not have) many toys when I was little.

_____.

3. We (finish) our homework early yesterday.

_____.

4. I (not like) that woman's tone.

_____.

3. How do we pronounce -ed?

There are three different ways to pronounce the end of the regular verbs' ending "-ed":

- When the verb **ends** in a **/t/** or **/d/** sound, -ed is pronounced **/ɪd/**

Examples:

Waited is pronounced /weɪtɪd/

Pretended is pronounced /prɪtendɪd/

- When the verb **ends** in **t, s, f, k, p, or ch**, -ed is pronounced **/t/**

Examples:

Watched is pronounced /wɒtʃt/

Hoped is pronounced /hɒpt/

- When the verb ends in any other sound, -ed is pronounced **/d/**

Examples:

Played is pronounced /pleɪd/

Followed is pronounced /fɒləʊd/

Learn more:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xLA58CSIf3M>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mwh_IWwwN8Y

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aPgtdZ_urZk