



**AUSSIES
OUTTA TOWN**

HOW TO PRONOUNCE THE -ED ENDINGS OF REGULAR VERBS

WWW.AUSSIESOUTTATOWN.COM



CONTENTS

PAGE **1**

QUICK SUMMARY

PAGE **2**

WHAT IS A VOICED AND VOICELESS SOUND?

PAGE **3**

RULE 1: VOICED SOUNDS

PAGE **4**

RULE 2: VOICELESS SOUNDS

PAGE **6**

RULE 3: THE -ED SOUND

QUICK SUMMARY

1

Rule 1: Voiced Sounds

If the verb base ends in a voiced sound, then the -ed ending sounds like /d/ with no extra syllable.

2

Rule 2: Voiceless Sounds

If the verb base ends in a voiceless sound, then the -ed ending sounds like /t/ with no extra syllable.

3

Rule 3: The -ed Sound

If the verb base ends in a /t/ or /d/ sound already, then the -ed ending is pronounced as an extra syllable.

WHAT IS A VOICED AND VOICELESS SOUND?

1 **Voiced Sounds**

To create a *voiced* consonant sound, we need to use our vocal folds to create sounds. Consonants will sound as if you are humming and our lips, tongue, and teeth will alter the sound.

To create a *voiceless* consonant sound, we do not need to use our vocal folds. Consonants will sound breathy and our lips, tongue, and teeth will alter the sound.

2 **Voiceless Sounds**



Rule 1: Voiced Sounds

If the verb base ends in a voiced sound, then the -ed ending sounds like /d/ with no extra syllable.

Example: Moved

Verb base of moved is move which ends in the voiced sound of /v/

Therefore the -ed on the end will sound like a /d/ sound.

Voiced consonant sounds:

b, d, v, g, z, j, th, l, m, n, r, zh, ng, w, y

IPA:

/b/, /d/, /v/, /g/, /z/, /dʒ/, /ð/, /l/, /m/, /n/, /r/, /ʒ/, /ŋ/, /w/, /j/



Rule 2: **Voiceless Sounds**

If the verb base ends in a voiceless sound, then the -ed ending sounds like /t/ with no extra syllable.

Example: **Worked**

Verb base of worked is **work** which ends in the voiceless sound of /k/

Therefore the -ed on the end will sound like a /t/ sound.

Voiceless consonant sounds:

t, p, f, k, s, sh, ch, th

IPA:

/t/, /p/, /f/, /k/, /s/, /ʃ/, /tʃ/, /θ/



Always trust the way something sounds before looking at the spelling of a word.

Example: Laughed

Verb base of laughed is **laugh** which ends in the voiceless sound of /f/

Despite it ending with the letter h, the 'gh' creates the sound /f/ in this context.

Therefore the -ed on the end will sound like a /t/ sound.

A photograph of a desk setup. In the center is a silver laptop with a black screen displaying the text 'Rule 3: The -ed Sound' in bold black font. To the left of the laptop is a white ceramic mug filled with coffee. To the right is a small green succulent in a white pot, and a smartphone is partially visible on the desk.

Rule 3: The -ed Sound

If the verb base ends in a /t/ or /d/ sound already, then the -ed ending is pronounced as an extra syllable: /ɪd/

Example: Started

Verb base of started is **start** which ends in the /t/ sound.

Therefore the **-ed** is pronounced as an extra syllable.

Started**ed**

PRACTICE

Next to these verb bases, write in their past simple and the IPA in which you would pronounce the end -ed.

Finish

Finished

/t/

Travel

Drop

Watch

Stop

Laugh

Engage

Stay

Graduate

Visit

Attend

Raise

Separate

Date

Cough

Return

Study

Marry



**SIGN UP TO THE
WEBSITE FOR MORE
AUSTRALIAN
ENGLISH
RESOURCES**

WWW.AUSSIESOUTTATOWN.COM

