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The **Past Simple** is the basic form of past tense in English. We use Past Simple to say what we did **in the past**. The time of the action can be in the recent past or the distant past and action duration is not important. We use it for **finished** actions:

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## Past Simple

- He called me  
yesterday.

V<sup>2</sup>  
ed



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via

<http://antonioenglishblog.blogspot.com/2016/02/25-ejercicios-del-pasado-simple-de-los.html>

- I **lived** in Madrid last year.
- She **went** on holiday last week.
- I **studied** music at school.

# How to form Past Simple

## The verb 'be'

In Past Simple, the verb '**be**' has two forms — **was** and **were**:

Singular	Plural
<i>I <b>was</b></i>	<i>We <b>were</b></i>
<i>You <b>were</b></i>	<i>You <b>were</b></i>
<i>He/She/It <b>was</b></i>	<i>They <b>were</b></i>

- *Jack and Tom **were** late this morning.*
- *It **was** cold yesterday.*
- *She **was** sad last week.*

## Regular verbs

In Past Simple, we add '**-ed**' to most verbs. These verbs are called regular:

- *To work → I **worked** in a shop last year.*
- *To play → I **played** basketball on Monday.*
- *To cook → She **cooked** fish yesterday.*

There are some rules to remember when adding '-ed' to certain verbs.

### Spelling rules for adding '-ed'

a) For regular verbs ending in '**-e**', add '**-d**':

- *To live → John **lived** in Brazil.*
- *To close → She **closed** the door.*

b) For regular verbs ending in one consonant + '**-y**', change the '**-y**' to '**-ied**' (y + ed = ied):

- *To study → They **studied** German.*
- *To try → I **tried** to be kind.*

c) For regular verbs that end in one vowel + one consonant, **double** the consonant and add '**-ed**':

- To stop → They **stopped** the car.
- To plan → Nick **planned** a business trip.

d) We do not double the consonants 'y' or 'w':

- To play → She **played** piano.
- To row → He **rowed** 3km yesterday.

e) We do not double the consonant when the last syllable is not stressed:

- To listen → I **listened** to the radio.
- To visit → Margaret **visited** her mother on Tuesday.

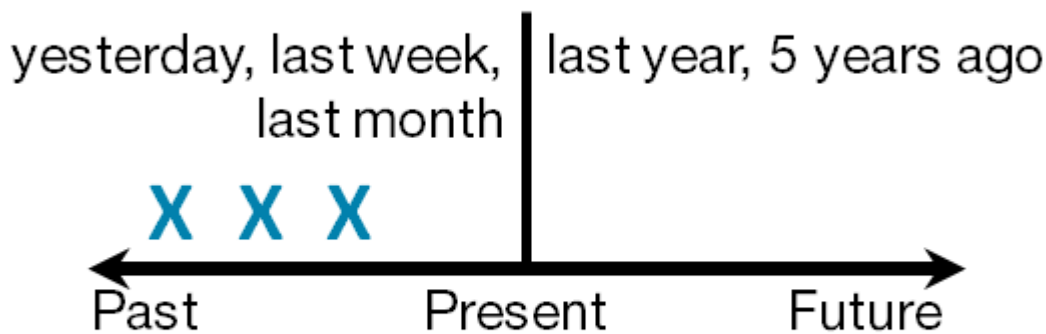
## Irregular verbs

3. Some verbs in English are **irregular**. They have different past forms:

*break → broke    have → had*  
*go → went      take → took*  
*leave → left     know → knew*  
*make → made    send → sent*  
*write → wrote   run → ran*

Let's summarize:

## Past Simple Tense



## Verb + ed or Irregular V2.

via <https://www.learnathome.ru/grammar/past-simple-tense.html>

### When to use Past Simple

We use the Past Simple tense to talk about:

1) completed actions **in the past**:

- We **saw** him last Sunday.
- They **got** home very late last night.

2) actions that happened **again and again in the past (habitual actions)**:

- I always **did** my homework on time when I was a student.
- We **swam** a lot while we were on holiday.

3) something that was **true for some time** in the past (action as a fact):

- I **lived** abroad for ten years.
- He **enjoyed** being a student.

4) **series of completed actions** in the past:

- I **woke** up, **washed** my face, **got** dressed and **left** home.
- I **visited** my grandma, **stayed** for a couple of hours and then **went** home.

## Time expressions

To say **when** something happened, we often use certain past time expressions:

### 1. **frequency**: *often, sometimes, always*

- I sometimes **walked** home at lunchtime.
- I often **brought** my lunch to school.

### 2. **a definite point in time**: *last week, when I was a child, yesterday, six weeks ago*

- Yesterday, I **arrived** in Geneva.
- She **finished** her work at seven o'clock.

### 3. **an indefinite point in time**: *the other day, ages ago, a long time ago*

- People **lived** in caves a long time ago.
- She **played** the piano when she was a child.

Watch this video from Crown Academy of English to learn about how to form and when to use Past Simple tense:

Read more about Past Simple:

[Past Simple: Negative & Questions](#)

[Present Perfect or Past Simple?](#)

[Past Simple Passive](#)