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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:



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 was We were

You were You were
He/She/It was They were

- 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  $\rightarrow I$  worked in a shop last year.
- To play  $\rightarrow$  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  $\rightarrow$  I **tried** to be kind.
- c) For regular verbs that end in one vowel + one consonant, **double** the consonant and add '-ed':
  - To stop  $\rightarrow$  They **stopped** the car.
  - To plan  $\rightarrow$  Nick **planned** a business trip.
- d) We do not double the consonants 'y' or 'w':
  - To play  $\rightarrow$  She **played** piano.
  - To row  $\rightarrow$  He **rowed** 3km yesterday.
- e) We do not double the consonant when the last syllable is not stressed:
  - To listen  $\rightarrow$  I **listened** to the radio.
  - To visit  $\rightarrow$  Margaret **visited** her mother on Tuesday.



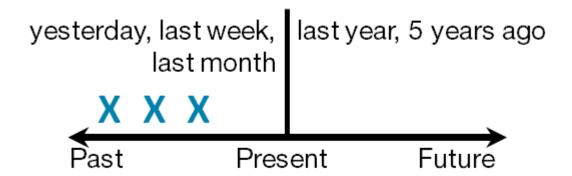
#### **Irregular verbs**

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

```
break \rightarrow broke \ have \rightarrow had
go \rightarrow went \ take \rightarrow took
leave \rightarrow left \ know \rightarrow knew
make \rightarrow made \ send \rightarrow sent
write \rightarrow wrote \ run \rightarrow 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