

Pronunciation of the ending “-ed” in the Regular Past Simple

- 1) Verbs ending in a voiceless sound (s, c, sh, ch, ck, x) → “-ed” is pronounced “**t**”.
The “-ed” does NOT create an extra syllable.

Examples: **noticed** **liked** **laughed** (rhymes with ‘raft’)
 watched **washed** **stopped**
 checked **stuffed** **missed** (rhymes with: ‘list’)
 asked (“askt”) **relaxed** (“relakst”)

- 2) Verbs ending in a voiced sound (b, g, m, n, z) → “-ed” is pronounced “**d**”.
The “-ed” does NOT create an extra syllable.

Examples: **rubbed** **scared** **judged** **used**
 hugged **bathed** **weighed** **received**
 sailed **allowed** **seemed** **played**
 rained **continued**

Verbs ending in a “y” are conjugated with “-ied” and the “-ed” is pronounced “**d**” too.

Examples: **married** **worried** **carried**
 replied **cried** **tried**

- 3) Verbs ending in a “d” or “t” sound → “-ed” is pronounced “**id**”.
The “-ed” creates an extra syllable.

Examples: **needed** **visited** **loaded** **complicated**
 painted **decided** **created**

Tip: If you are in doubt or a little confused, then try this: Always try to pronounce the ending ‘ed’ as ‘t’, and you will often be correct.

Video suggestions: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vv7cBMCBUdk> (15 mins)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DyAp3-H62ow> (13 mins)

Song suggestion: **Norwegian wood** (The Beatles)
 (see next page)

The Beatles - Norwegian Wood (1965)

(verbs – past simple - pronunciation)

Past Simple pronunciation

I once had a girl, or should I say, she once had me?

She **showed** me her room, isn't it good? Norwegian wood ('d')

She **asked** me to stay and she told me to sit anywhere ('t')

So I **looked** around and I **noticed** there wasn't a chair ('t') / ('t')

I sat on a rug, biding my time, drinking her wine

We **talked** until two and then she said "It's time for bed" ('t')

She told me she **worked** in the morning and **started** to laugh ('t') / ('id')

I told her I didn't and **crawled** off to sleep in the bath ('d')

And when I awoke, I was alone, this bird had flown

So I lit a fire, isn't it good? Norwegian wood

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HnN4f73yvno> (2 mins)