



English Pronunciation Simple past of regular verbs and their final -ed sound

For an explanation on the three ways to pronounce -ed visit:

<http://www.authorstream.com/Presentation/colombiagull-1087662-pronunciation-ed-endings-video/>

There are three ways to pronounce the final -ed of regular verbs in the simple past tense. This pronunciation is determined by the final sound of the verb in the infinitive: Is it a voiced consonant, an unvoiced consonant, or a vowel sound?

After unvoiced sounds such as **p, k, f, s, ʃ**, and **tʃ** the final -ed is pronounced like *t* as in the word *cat*. Note that the -e remains silent.

Click on these words to hear the sound files.(only if connected, click Ctrl+ click of the mouse)

IPA *	infinitive	past tense
p	help	helped
	stuff	stuffed
f	laugh	laughed
	miss	missed
s	dice	diced
	fix	fixed
k	look	looked
ʃ	fish	fished
tʃ	march	marched

After voiced sounds such as *b, ɒ, g, v, z, ʒ, dʒ, m, n, ŋ, l*, and *r* the final -ed sound is pronounced like *d* as in *good*. Note that the -e remains silent.

IPA A	infinitive	past tense
b	grab	grabbed
g	hug	hugged
v	save	saved
z	ooze	oozed
	please	pleased
ʒ	massage	massaged
dʒ	rage	raged
m	resume	resumed
n	sign	signed

ŋ	bang	banged
l	peel	peeled
r	honor	honored
ð	breathe	breathed

The final *-ed* is also pronounced like the *d* in *good* after all vowel sounds. Note that the *-e* remains silent.

<i>infinitive</i>	<i>simple past</i>
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stay	stayed
free	freed
lie	lied
hoe	hoed
sue	sued
ski	skied
snow	snowed
try	tried

For verbs ending in *d* and *t* the final *-ed* is pronounced **Id** as in the final two letters of the word *did*.

<i>infinitive</i>	<i>past tense</i>
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add	added
grade	graded
decide	decided
exit	exited
taste	tasted
object	objected

Please, practise here. GAME: T, D OR ID? <http://www.englishmedialab.com/pronunciation/regular%20past%20pronunciation%20ending%20sounds.htm>