

Irregular Simple Past Verbs

Below, you'll find a list of the most common English irregular verbs and their inflexions in the simple past. The list is not exhaustive; however, it covers most forms of the simple past of irregular verbs that are commonly used in contemporary English.

Irregular Verbs (Unique Inflexion)

have	had	make	made	know	knew
are	were	think	thought	give	gave
say	said	take	took	bring	brought
do	did	find	found	feel	felt
make	made	get	got	begin	began
see	saw	give	gave	stand	stood
come	came	tell	told	keep	kept
go	went	hear	heard	send	sent
say	said	leave	left	speak	spoke
hold	held	become	became	lose	lost
fall	fell	meet	met	write	wrote
pay	paid	rise	rose	lay ¹	laid
lead	led	run	ran	deal	dealt
break	broke	catch	caught	strike	struck
grow	grew	fight	fought	bind	bound
mean	meant	sit	sat	lie	lay ¹
spend	spent	shoot	shot	throw	threw
build	built	weep	wept	drink	drank
dream	dreamt	shake	shook	seek	sought
forget	forgot	hang	hung	draw	drew
teach	taught	drive	drove	ride	rode
wear	wore	ring	rang	win	won
bear	bore	buy	bought	sell	sold
choose	chose	sing	sang	arise	arose

sleep	slept	fly ²	flew	learn	learnt
stick	stuck	fly ³ , flee	fled	hide	hid
shine	shone	fling	flung	burn	burnt
bid	bade	forbid	forbade	raise	rose
swear	swore	feed	fed	creep	crept
sink	sunk	wake	woke	swing	swung
dwell	dwelt	abide	abode	lend	lent
light	lit	blow	blew	steal	stole
freeze	froze	awake	awoke	lean	leant
spring	sprang	tear	tore	kneel	knelt
bite	bit	slay	slew	sweep	swept
breed	bred	dig	dug	swim	swam
cling	clung	tread	trod	slide	slid
leap	leapt	foresee	foresaw	spin	spun
befall	befell	spit	spat	shrink	shrank
bleed	bled	bend	bent	eat	ate
dive	dove	grind	ground	spell	spelt
plead	pled	smell	smelt	slink	slunk
spoil	spoilt	string	strung	weave	wove
forsake	forsook	smite	smote	wind	wound
wring	wrung				

¹ *Lay* is both the present form of the verb meaning “to place something down gently” and the simple past form of the verb meaning “to recline” or “to rest on a flat surface”.

² Here, the usage of the word *fly* means “to move through the air”.

³ Here, the usage of the word *fly* means “to flee” or “to run away from danger”.

Irregular Verbs (Same Form in Singular and Plural)

put	put	read	read ⁴	spread	Spread
beat	beat	hurt	hurt	burst	burst
wet	wet	thrust	thrust	hit	hit
shed	shed	cut	cut	quit	quit
set	set	bet	bet	clad	clad
cast	cast	bust	bust	cost	cost
rid	rid	shut	shut	let	let
wed	wed				

⁴ Pronounced : /i:ɪd/ (like “reed”) in the present tense, but : /ɪɛd/ (like “red”) in the simple past.