

How Do We Pronounce The -ed?

The past simple tense and past participle of all regular verbs end in **-ed**. For example:

work, worked, worked.

In addition, many adjectives are made from the past participle and so end in **-ed**. For example:

I like painted furniture.

The question is, **how do we pronounce the -ed?** The answer is, in 3 ways:

- /ɪd/
- /t/
- /d/

If the base verb ends in one of these sounds		example base verb*	example with -ed	pronounce the -ed as
/t/		want	wanted	/ɪd/
/d/		end	ended	
unvoiced	/p/	hope	hoped	/t/
	/f/	laugh	laughed	
	/s/	fax	faxed	

If the base verb ends in one of these sounds		example base verb*	example with -ed	pronounce the -ed as
	/ʃ/	<i>wash</i>	<i>washed</i>	
	/tʃ/	<i>watch</i>	<i>watched</i>	
	/k/	<i>like</i>	<i>liked</i>	
voiced	all other sounds, eg	<i>play</i>	<i>played</i>	/d/
		<i>allow</i>	<i>allowed</i>	
		<i>beg</i>	<i>begged</i>	

*Note that it is the **sound** that is important, not the letter or spelling. For example, *fax* ends in the letter *x* but the sound /s/; *like* ends in the letter *e* but the sound /k/.

Exceptions

The following *-ed* words used **as adjectives** are pronounced with /ɪd/, but when used as real verbs (past simple and past participle), the normal rules apply.

- *aged*
- *dogged*
- *ragged*
- *blessed*
- *learned*

- *wicked*
- *crooked*
- *naked*
- *wretched*

So we say:

- *an aged man /ɪd/*
- *a blessed nuisance /ɪd/*
- *a dogged persistence /ɪd/*
- *a learned professor - the professor, who was truly learned /ɪd/*
- *a wretched beggar - the beggar was wretched /ɪd/*

But when used as real verbs (past simple and past participle), the normal rules apply and we say:

- *he aged quickly /d/*
- *he blessed me /t/*
- *they dogged him /d/*
- *he has learned well /d/ or /t/*



nomadamin