



Conjugating Regular Verbs

Regular verbs follow a simple pattern to indicate verb tense that combines the base form of the verb plus a suffix, *-s*, *-ed*, or *-ing*.

Present Tense (Base Form)

The base verb describes action that takes place in the current moment or on a regular basis. Use with pronouns—*I*, *we*, *you*, *they*—and plural nouns.

Example: *They* **walk** through the park every afternoon.

pronoun

Three *ladies* **walk** through the park every afternoon.

plural noun

Present Tense (-s Form)

The base verb plus *-s* suffix is used with pronouns—*she*, *he*, *it*—and singular nouns.

Example: *She* **walks** through the park every afternoon.

pronoun

The *lady* **walks** through the park every afternoon.

singular noun

Past Tense

The past tense verb combines the base verb plus *-ed* suffix. If the base verb ends in an “e” then the suffix added is *-d*.

Example: *We* **walked** through the park every afternoon.

Three *ladies* **hiked** through the park every afternoon.

Past Participle

The past participle combines a helping verb—*has*, *have*, *had*, *be*—with the past-tense verb. It indicates an action 1) currently ongoing, 2) ongoing in the past, or 3) modifying a noun.

Example: *We* **have walked** through the park every afternoon.

currently ongoing

Three *ladies* **had walked** through the park every afternoon two seasons ago.

ongoing in the past

The park we **had walked** through was covered in fall leaves.

noun **modifier**

Present Participle

The present participle combines a helping verb—*was*, *were*—with the base verb plus the *-ing* suffix. It indicates an action 1) taking place concurrently with another action or 2) modifying a noun.

Example: I **was walking** to school when the bus **drove** past.

action

concurrent action

It felt as though he **were walking** all over my feelings.

noun

modifier