

Regular Verbs

For regular verbs, the past tense is identical to the past participle. Both end in “d” or “ed.” Southerners, pay attention to the following verbs especially. Don’t drop the “d” in the past tense and past participle!

Base verb	Past tense	Past participle
Finish	Finished	Finished
Laugh	Laughed	Laughed
Miss	Missed	Missed
Suppose	Supposed	Supposed

Irregular Verbs

For irregular verbs, the past tense and the past participle are different. Coastal Southerners (those of us who live in Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina), pay particular attention to the verbs listed below. We commonly use the past tense form of the verb instead of the past participle. Be careful!

Base verb	Past tense	Past participle
Begin	Began <i>He began the job.</i>	Begun <i>He <u>had begun</u> the job.</i> <i>The job <u>was begun</u>.</i>
Break	Broke <i>He broke the bowl.</i>	Broken <i>He <u>had broken</u> the bowl.</i> <i>The bowl <u>was broken</u>.</i>
Choose	Chose <i>He chose his running mate.</i>	Chosen <i>He <u>had chosen</u> his running mate.</i> <i>His running mate <u>was chosen</u>.</i>
Come	Came <i>He came as soon as he heard his name called.</i>	Come <i>He <u>had come</u> as soon as he heard his name called.</i>
Do	Did <i>He did the job ahead of time.</i>	Done <i>He <u>had done</u> the job ahead of time.</i> <i>The job <u>was done</u> ahead of time.</i>
Drink	Drank <i>He drank the milk.</i>	Drunk <i>He <u>had drunk</u> the milk.</i> <i>The milk <u>was drunk</u>.</i>

Drive	Drove <i>He drove he ball into left field</i>	Driven <i>He <u>had driven</u> the ball into left field. The ball <u>was driven</u> into left field.</i>
Eat	Ate <i>He at the ice cream.</i>	Eaten <i>He <u>had eaten</u> the ice cream. The ice cream <u>was eaten</u>.</i>
Fall	Fell <i>He fell out of the tree.</i>	Fallen <i>He <u>had fallen</u> out of the tree.</i>
Forget	Forgot <i>He forgot to bring the ring</i>	Forgotten <i>He <u>had forgotten</u> to bring the ring. The ring <u>was forgotten</u>.</i>
Give	Gave <i>He gave the ring to the bride.</i>	Given <i>He <u>had given</u> the ring to the bride. The bride <u>was given</u> the ring.</i>
Go	Went <i>He went to the store.</i>	Gone <i>He <u>had gone</u> to the store. He <u>was gone</u> to the store.</i>
Run	Ran <i>He ran as fast as he could.</i>	Run <i>He <u>had run</u> as fast as he could. The race <u>was run</u>.</i>
See	Saw <i>She saw him across the room.</i>	Seen <i>She <u>had seen</u> him across the room. He <u>was seen</u> across the room.</i>
Speak	Spoke <i>He spoke softly.</i>	Spoken <i>He <u>had spoken</u> softly. His words <u>were spoken</u> softly.</i>
Swim	Swam <i>He swam the English Channel.</i>	Swum <i>He <u>had swum</u> the English Channel. The English Channel <u>was swum</u>.</i>
Take	Took <i>He took the car.</i>	Taken <i>He <u>had taken</u> the car. The car <u>was taken</u>.</i>