Past Tense Pronunciation for Regular Verbs (-ed)

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| Rule 1: If the verb base ends in a voiceless sound, then the –ed ending sounds like “t”.  The “t” is blended together with the previous consonant and not pronounced as an extra syllable. | Rule 2: If the verb base ends in a voiced sound, then the –ed ending sounds like “d”.  The “d” is blended together with the previous consonant and not pronounced as an extra syllable. | Rule 3: If the verb base ends in a “t” or “d” sound already, then the –ed ending sounds like “id” or “ud”.  It is pronounced as an extra syllable. |
| A voiceless sound is like a whisper. Your vocal chords don’t vibrate.  **Voiceless consonant sounds:**  ***p, f, k, s, sh, ch, th*** | A voiced sound means that your vocal chords vibrate.  **Voiced consonant sounds:**  ***b, v, g, z, j, th, l, m, n, r***  **All vowel sounds are voiced.** |  |
| Examples of past tense verbs where the –ed ending sounds like “t”  worked  dropped  finished  divorced  stopped  laughed  coughed  watched | Examples of past tense verbs where the –ed ending sounds like “d”  moved  returned  stayed  studied  married  widowed  raised  engaged  traveled | Examples of past tense verbs where the –ed ending sounds like “ed”  started  graduated  visited  separated  dated  attended |