

L.G. Alexander. 1998.
 Longman English
 Grammar. Longman.

Appendix 40 [> 9.14.1, 9.15, 9.22,

12.3n.1, 12.11n.1]

Some common irregular verbs

verb	past tense	past participle
arise	arose	arisen
awake	awoke	awoken
be	was/were	been
bear	bore	borne; born ¹
beat	beat	beaten
become	became	become
begin	began	begun
bend	bent	bent
bet	bet/betted	bet/betted
bid (money)	bid	bid
bind	bound	bound
bite	bit	bitten/bit
bleed	bled	bled
blow	blew	blown
break	broke	broken
breed	bred	bred
bring	brought	brought
build	built	built
burn	burned/burnt	burned/burnt
burst	burst	burst
bust	bust/busted	bust/busted
buy	bought	bought
cast ²	cast	cast
catch	caught	caught
choose	chose	chosen
cling	clung	clung
come ³	came	come
cost ⁴	cost	cost

creep	crept	crept
cut	cut	cut
deal	dealt	dealt
dig	dug	dug
dive	dived (dove AmE)	dived
do ⁵	did	done
draw ⁶	drew	drawn
dream	dreamt/dreamed	dreamt/dreamed
drink	drank	drunk ⁷
drive	drove	driven
dwell	dwelt/dwelted	dwelt/dwelted
eat ⁸	ate	eaten
fall ⁹	fell	fallen
feed	fed	fed
feel	felt	felt
fight	fought	fought
find	found	found
flee	fled	fled
fling	flung	flung
fly	flew	flown
forbid	forbade	forbidden
forget	forgot	forgotten
forgive	forgave	forgiven
forsake	forsook	forsaken
freeze	froze	frozen
get	got	got (gotten AmE)
give	gave	given
go ¹⁰	went	gone
grind	ground	ground
grow ¹¹	grew	grown
hang ¹²	hung/hanged	hung/hanged
have	had	had
hear ¹³	heard / hɜ:d /	heard / hɜ:d /
hew	hewed	hewn/hewed
hide	hid	hidden/hid
hit	hit	hit
hold ¹⁴	held	held
hurt	hurt	hurt
keep	kept	kept
kneel	knelt/kneeled	knelt/kneeled
knit ¹⁵	knit/knitted	knit/knitted
know	knew	known
lay ¹⁶	laid	laid
lead ¹⁷ /li:d /	led / led /	led / led /
lean	leant/leaned	leant/leaned
leap	leapt/leaped	leapt/leaped
learn	learnt/learned	learnt/learned ¹⁸
leave	left	left
lend	lent	lent
let	let	let
lie ¹⁹ (lie down)	lay	lain
light	lit/lighted	lit/lighted
lose / lu:z /	lost / lɒst /	lost / lɒst /
make ²⁰	made	made
mean / mi:n /	meant / ment /	meant / ment /
meet	met	met
mow	mowed	mown/mowed
pay ²¹	paid	paid
prove	proved	proved, proven
put	put	put
quit	quit/quitted	quit/quitted
read ²² /ri:d /	read / red /	read / red /
rid	rid/ridded	rid/ridded
ride ²³	rode	ridden
ring	rang	rung
rise	rose	risen

run ²⁴	ran	run	wed	wed/wedded	wed/wedded
saw	sawed	sawn/sawed	weep	wept	wept
say /seɪ/	said /sed/	said /sed/	wet	wet/wetted	wet/wetted
see ²⁵	saw	seen	win	won	won
seek	sought	sought	wind ⁴¹	/waɪnd/ wound/waund/	wound
sell ²⁶	sold	sold	wring	wrung	wrung
send	sent	sent	write ⁴²	wrote	written
set ²⁷	set	set			
sew	sewed	sewn/sewed			
shake	shook	shaken			
shear	sheared	shorn/sheared			
shed	shed	shed			
shine ²⁸	shone	shone			
shoot ²⁹	shot	shot			
show	showed	shown/showed			
shrink	shrank/shrunk	shrunk ³⁰			
shut	shut	shut			
sing	sang	sung			
sink	sank	sunk ³¹			
sit	sat	sat			
slay	slew	slain			
sleep ³²	slept	slept			
slide	slid	slid			
sling	slung	slung			
slink	slunk	slunk			
slit	slit	slit			
smell	smelt/smelled	smelt/smelled			
sow	sowed	sown/sowed			
speak	spoke	spoken			
speed	sped/speeded	sped/speeded			
spell ³³	spelt/spelled	spelt/spelled			
spend ³⁴	spent	spent			
spill	spilt/spilled	spilt/spilled			
spin	spun/span	spun			
spit	spat (spit AmE)	spat			
split	split	split			
spoil	spoilt/spoiled	spoilt/spoiled			
spread	spread	spread			
spring	sprang/sprung	sprung			
stand ³⁵	stood	stood			
steal	stole	stolen			
stick	stuck	stuck			
sting	stung	stung			
stink	stank/stunk	stunk			
strew	strewed	strewn/strewed			
stride	strode	stridden			
strike	struck	struck ³⁶			
string	strung	strung			
strive	strove/strived	striven/strived			
swear	swore	sworn			
sweep	swept	swept			
swell	swelled	swollen/swelled			
swim	swam	swum			
swing	swung	swung			
take ³⁷	took	taken			
teach	taught	taught			
tear	tore	torn			
tell ³⁸	told	told			
think	thought	thought			
throw ³⁹	threw	thrown			
thrust	thrust	thrust			
tread	trod	trodden/trod			
understand ⁴⁰	understood	understood			
wake	woke/waked	woken/waked			
wear	wore	worn			
weave	wove	woven			

- 1 Also: *forbear, overbear*. *She's borne ten sons. I was born in 1960.*
- 2 Also: *broadcast, forecast, miscast, recast*
- 3 Also: *overcome; compare become.*
- 4 Note regular verb *cost*: *I've costed the work.*
- 5 Also: *outdo, overdo, redo, underdo, undo*
- 6 Also: *overdraw, withdraw*
- 7 Note the adjective *drunken*: *a drunken man.*
- 8 Also: *overeat*
- 9 Also: *befall*
Note regular verb *fell*: *We've felled that tree.*
- 10 Also: *forego, undergo*
- 11 Also: *outgrow, overgrow*
- 12 Also: *overhang, overhung, overhung*
Note *hanged* (= put to death).
- 13 Also: *overhear, mishear, rehear*
Note *hear* /hɪə/ and *heard* /hɜ:d/.
- 14 Also: *behold, uphold, withhold*
- 15 Note *knit* (= make from wool) is regular.
- 16 Also: *inlay, mislay, relay, waylay*
Note the present, *lay*, (*laid, laid*), should not be confused with the past of *lie*, (*lay, lain*).
- 17 Also: *mislead*. Compare pronunciation of *lead* /li:d/ (verb) and *lead* /led/ (noun).
- 18 Note the adjective *learned* /lɜ:nɪd/ [> 6.14].
- 19 Note *lie*, (*lied, lied*) (regular) (= tell a lie).
- 20 Also: *remake, unmake*
- 21 Also: *overpay, repay, underpay*
Note spelling of *paid, laid*; compare *played*.
- 22 Also: *misread, re-read*
Note the pronunciation of the present *read* /ri:d/ and the past *read* /red/.
- 23 Also: *override*
- 24 Also: *outrun, overrun, re-run*
- 25 Also: *foresee, oversee*. Compare: *see, saw, seen* and *saw, sawed, sawn/sawed*.
- 26 Also: *outsell, resell, undersell*
- 27 Also: *beset, reset, upset*
- 28 Also: *outshine*. *Shine* (= polish), can be regular, especially in AmE.
- 29 Also: *overshoot*
- 30 Compare the adjective *shrunk*.
- 31 Compare *sunken*: *a sunken ship*.
- 32 Also: *oversleep*
- 33 Also: *misspell*
- 34 Also: *overspend, underspend*
- 35 Also: *withstand*; compare *understand*.
- 36 Compare *awestruck, poverty-stricken*.
- 37 Also: *betake, mistake, overtake, retake, undertake*
- 38 Also: *foretell, retell*
- 39 Also: *overthrow*
- 40 Also: *misunderstand*
- 41 Also: *rewind, unwind*
Note regular verbs: *wind* /wɪnd/: *I was winded by the blow. wound* /wu:nd/: *He was wounded in the war.*
- 42 Also: *rewrite, underwrite*