

English Verb Tenses

- Verbs have three **tenses** (the time of the action taking place): past, present, and future.
- There are also four **aspects** to a verb (the state of the action taking place):
 - simple**: actions occur at a specific time, but it is not clear whether the action is finished or not.
 - progressive (also called 'continuous')**: describes an unfinished or ongoing action
 - perfect**: describes a finished action
 - perfect progressive**: describes an action that was previously ongoing but was then finished.
- Time + aspect = a complete verb tense for regular verbs

ASPECT ↓ TIME →	PAST	PRESENT	FUTURE
SIMPLE	Past Simple: "Yesterday, I baked a cake."	Present Simple: "I bake a cake for every holiday."	Future Simple: "This year, I will bake as much as I can."
PROGRESSIVE	Past Progressive: "Yesterday, I was baking a cake."	Present Progressive: "Right now, I am baking a cake."	Future Progressive: "Next winter, I will be baking a lot."
PERFECT	Past Perfect: "I was confident about the cake because I had baked it before."	Present Perfect: "I have baked a cake for you."	Future Perfect: "By next weekend, I will have baked the cake for the party."
PERFECT PROGRESSIVE	Past PP: "A while ago, I had been baking in the kitchen."	Present PP: "I have been baking a cake for the party."	Future PP: "By that time, I will have been baking for a couple of weeks."

REGULAR VS IRREGULAR VERBS

- A regular verb has a fixed suffix pattern for changing the form of the verb to past tense. For regular verbs, if the word ends in...
 - a vowel: "**-d**" is added to the base form, like "baked."
 - a consonant: "**-ed**" is added to the base form, like "dressed."
 - the letter 'y': "**-ied**" is added to the base form, like "carried."
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- Irregular verbs do not use the above suffixes. They are either transformed into a different word or do not change their form at all when conjugated. For example:
 - The verb 'do' becomes 'did' and 'done.'
 - The verb 'cut' remains the same when used for all forms.

