

“ED” ENDING PRONUNCIATION

The past tense endings of regular verbs can be pronounced in three different ways depending on how the end of the verb sounds. Look at the rules below and

Voiceless Sounds

*There is no vibration
in your voice box with
the final sound of the verb:

/p/ help – helped → the ending sounds

like a “t.” → /-t/

→ helpt

→ laughed – lafft

→ worked – workt

→ passed – past

→ pronounced – pronounst

→ washed – washt

→ watched – watcht

Verbs that end with “d” or “t” sounds

*grade / lift / end / shift / fade / hunt, etc.

When you pronounce these verbs in past
forms, give them another syllable that sounds

like “id.” → /-id/

→ hunted – hunted

→ graded – gradid

→ lifted – lifted

→ decided – decided

Voiced Sounds

*There is a vibration
in your voice box with
the final sound of the verb:

/s/ use – used → the ending
sounds like a “d.” → /-d/

*Note that the “s” in “used”
sounds more like a “z.”

→ robbed – robbd

→ arrived – arrivd

→ jogged – joggd

→ surprised – surprisd

→ roared – roard

→ appeared – appeard

*Plus, all vowel sounds at the
end of verbs:

→ owed – owed

→ lied – lied

Practice these structures on the following page...

Put the following verbs into the correct categories in the box below.

explained, needed, lived, pushed, corrected, offered, answered

decided, seemed, typed, guessed, showed, pronounced, changed

worried, divorced, married, borrowed, finished, stopped, loved

refused, wanted, matched, coughed, walked, mixed, faded, graded

GROUP A

(voiceless sounds) /-t/

GROUP B

(voiced sounds) /-d/

GROUP C

("t" or "d" endings) /-id/