

45 Past simple (1)

Daniel Craig made his first James Bond film in 2006.



1 Form

We add *-ed* to most verbs to make the past simple:

watch → *watched*, *finish* → *finished*

Study these spellings:

die → *died*, *live* → *lived*, *like* → *liked*

stop → *stopped*, *plan* → *planned*, *travel* → *travelled*

carry → *carried*, *study* → *studied*

Spelling rules for regular verbs ► page 316



The pronunciation of the *-ed* ending depends on the sound that comes before it.



Pronunciation ► 1.18

Some verbs are irregular. They do not form the past simple with *-ed*:

buy → *bought*, *do* → *did*, *have (got)* → *had (got)*,

go → *went*, *hit* → *hit*, *leave* → *left*,

make → *made*, *put* → *put*, *say* → *said*, *take* → *took*,

see → *saw*, *tell* → *told*, *win* → *won*

Irregular verbs ► page 314

I/You	finished yesterday
He/She/It	
We/You/They	

2 Use

We use the past simple to talk about

- a single finished action in the past:

I went to the dentist yesterday.

I passed my exam last week.

- a repeated action in the past:

I called your mobile five times yesterday.

We often use time expressions (e.g. *yesterday*, *in 2002*, *last year*) to say when something happened:

<i>Daniel Craig made his first Bond film</i>	<i>in 2006.</i>
<i>I started work</i>	<i>last month.</i>
<i>It rained all day</i>	<i>yesterday.</i>
<i>My English course started</i>	<i>two months ago. (two months before now)</i>

We can also use *when* + past simple:

My father played football when he was young.

When she left college, Isabel had no money.