

DOUBLE LETTERS

- ☐ Words ending with **ONE** vowel + **ONE** consonant double the **consonant** before
 -ED / -ER / -ING / -ABLE
 e.g.: plan – **planned**; shop – **shopping**; squat – **squatter**...

N.B. The consonant is **not** doubled if there is **no** stress on the final syllable:
 offer – offered; limit – limited...

✎ Exception: *The handicapped* (also in American English)

- In **British** English, final **-L** is doubled (after one vowel) even if the syllable is not stressed:
 travelling; marvellous...

These are some of the verbs whose final consonant letter is doubled before –ING or –ED:

cancel / dial / duel / enamel / enrol / equal / fuel / funnel / gambol / grovel / label / level / libel / marvel / model / panel / pedal / pencil / pummel / quarrel / revel / rival / shovel / shrivel / snivel / spiral / stencil / swivel / total / travel / tunnel / unravel...

There are fewer irregularities in **American** English. The Americans write “**kidnapers**”, “**hiccuping**”, “**worshiping**”... while the British double the consonant: “**kidnappers**”, “**hiccupping**”, “**worshipping**”...



PREFIXES

1. ☉ ☉ CONSONANTS USUALLY DOUBLED:

PREFIX	Example	✎ NOTABLE EXCEPTIONS
AC-	accept	academy / across / acute
AP-	appear	apologize
AR-	arrange	around
AT-	attend	
COM-	committee	comic
IL-	illustrate	
IM	immediate	imagine / imitate
IR-	irregular	
OC-	occasion	
OP	opposite	operate / opinion
SUP-	support	super

2. ☉ CONSONANTS USUALLY SINGLE:

PREFIX	Example	✎ NOTABLE EXCEPTIONS
AB-	abrupt	abbreviation
AD-	adopt	address
AG-	agree	aggravate / aggressive
AM-	amount	
DIS-	disappoint	dissatisfied
IN-	inaccurate	innocent
MIS-	mistake	misspelling