

I Before E, Except After C

The rule works about 3 times out of 4 — here's the full picture.

I before E

the standard order

Examples: believe, chief, field, piece, thief

Except after C

e before i, right after c

Examples: ceiling, receive, deceive, conceit

When it says long A

e before i for the /ay/ sound

Examples: neighbor, weigh, eight, sleigh, vein

Common exceptions

doesn't follow the rule at all

Examples: weird, seize, either, height, science