

Apply the Rule — Spelling Practice

10 core spelling rules cover the vast majority of English spelling decisions. This worksheet gives one practice page per rule from the phonics-spelling-rules guide.

Name: _____

Date: _____

How to use this worksheet

- 1 Read the rule at the top of the page.
- 2 For rules 1-3: read the base word and the suffix being added, then write the correctly-spelled result on the line.
- 3 For rules 4-10: some words are split into two red chunks — say each chunk, blend them together, then write the complete word on the line. These rules are spelling facts to recognize, not suffixes to add.
- 4 Check your spelling against the printed word or the rule once you're done.

Example — this is what a correct answer looks like:

hop + ing -> **hopping**

Tip

Don't teach all 10 rules at once — the phonics-spelling-rules guide has a suggested teaching order tied to phonics stage (CVC, magic-e, digraphs, then suffixes).



Rule 1 — The Doubling Rule

Double the final consonant before a vowel suffix (short-vowel CVC words).

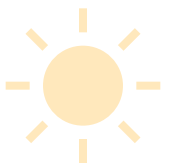
hop + ing -> _____

run + ing -> _____

sit + ing -> _____

big + er -> _____

hot + est -> _____



Rule 2 — Drop the E Rule

Drop the silent e before a vowel suffix (magic-e words).

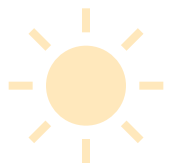
make + ing -> _____

bake + ing -> _____

race + ing -> _____

drive + er -> _____

love + able -> _____



Rule 3 — Y to I Rule

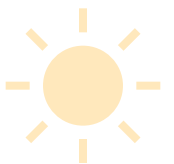
Change y to i before most suffixes (but keep y before -ing).

baby + es -> _____

cry + ed -> _____

happy + er -> _____

carry + ed -> _____



Rule 4 — Q Always Needs U

Q is always followed by U in English words.

qu-**een** _____

qu-**ick** _____

qu-**it** _____

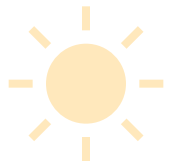
qu-**est** _____

qu-**ilt** _____

qu-**iet** _____

s**queeze** _____

r**equ**est _____



Rule 5 — Soft C

C says its soft sound before e, i, or y; otherwise C says its hard sound.

c-ity _____

c-ycle _____

c-ent _____

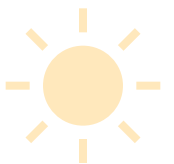
ceiling _____

ice _____

m-ice _____

f-ace _____

d-ance _____



Rule 6 — Soft G

G often says its soft sound (as in jump) before e, i, or y.

g-em _____

giraffe _____

g-ypsy _____

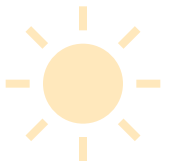
c-age _____

l-arge _____

age _____

st-age _____

g-iant _____



Rule 7 — I Before E

I before E, except after C — for the long-E sound only.

I before E

believe _____

br-ief _____

p-iece _____

y-ield _____

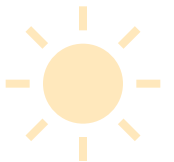
E before I, after C

ceiling _____

deceive _____

receipt _____

perceive _____



Rule 8 — Final E After V

English words don't end in a bare V — add a silent e.

g-ive _____

l-ive _____

l-ove _____

above _____

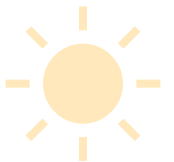
active _____

twelve _____

shelve _____

d-ove _____

sh-ove _____



Rule 9 — CK After Short Vowel

Use CK (not K or C) right after a short vowel at the end of a syllable.

bl-ack _____

br-ick _____

cl-ock _____

d-eck _____

d-uck _____

fl-ick _____

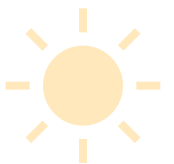
kn-ock _____

qu-ick _____

s-ick _____

st-uck _____

tr-ick _____



Rule 10 — FLOSS Rule

Double F, L, or S at the end of a one-syllable word after a short vowel.

cl-iff _____

st-uff _____

b-ell _____

h-ill _____

sp-ell _____

cl-ass _____

pr-ess _____

l-oss _____

m-iss _____

f-uzz _____

