

# SPELLING Rules

ENGLISH IS FULL OF COMPLICATED SPELLING RULES WITH LOTS OF EXCEPTIONS

THE BEST WAY TO LEARN ALL THE RULES OF SPELLING IS TO **READ**

HATE BOOKS? TRY SPORT OR FASHION MAGAZINES. THEY'RE EDITED WITH PERFECT GRAMMAR

## CORRECT

### USING I BEFORE E

Use *i* before *e*, except after *c*, or when sounded as "a" as in "neighbour" and "weigh."

**EXAMPLES:** believe, chief, piece, and thief;  
deceive, receive, weigh, and freight

**COMMON EXCEPTIONS:** efficient,  
weird, height, neither, ancient,  
caffeine, foreign

### DROPPING THE FINAL E

Drop the final *e* before a suffix beginning with a vowel but not before a suffix beginning with a consonant.

**EXAMPLES:** ride + ing = riding, guide + ance = guidance,  
hope + ing = hoping (see 'hopping' in 4 – important  
difference!), entire + ly = entirely

**COMMON EXCEPTIONS:** truly,  
noticeable

### CHANGING A FINAL Y TO I

Change a final *y* to *i* before a suffix, unless the suffix begins with *i*.

**EXAMPLES:** defy + ance = defiance, party + es = parties,  
pity + ful = pitiful, try + es = tries, try + ing = trying

**COMMON EXCEPTIONS:**  
journeying, memorize

### DOUBLING A FINAL CONSONANT

Double a final single consonant before a suffix beginning with a vowel when *both* a) a single vowel precedes the consonant; (b) the consonant ends an accented syllable or a one-syllable word.

**EXAMPLES:** stop + ing = stopping, admit + ed = admitted, occur + ence = occurrence, stoop + ing = stooping  
benefit + ed = benefited, delight + ful = delightful

## ADVANCED

Every rule you'll ever need can be found [here](#).