

## Adding a suffix to one syllable words ending in one vowel and one consonant

### 1) Vowel Suffixes

**Rule:** Double the last consonant when adding a **vowel suffix** to a single syllable word ending in *one vowel* and *one consonant*.

**For example:** *hop, sit, pat, shop, skin, sad, spot, slop.*

hop + *ing* = *hopping*  
hop + *ed* = *hopped*  
sit + *ing* = *sitting*  
sit + *er* = *sitter*

pat + *ing* = *patting*  
pat + *er* = *patter*  
shop + *ing* = *shopping*  
spot + *y* = *spotty*

slop + *y* = *sloppy*  
skin + *y* = *skinny*  
sad + *er* = *sadder*  
sad + *en* = *sadden*

**Exceptions:** this rule does not work for single syllable words ending in the following consonants: **w x y**.

**Examples:** snow - snowed, play - played, box - boxed.

### 2) Consonant Suffixes

**Rule:** There is no change when adding a **consonant suffix** to these words (i.e. you do not double the final consonant).

**For example:** *fit, ship, mad, skin, sin, sad, spot.*

ship + *ment* = *shipment*  
skin + *less* = *skinless*  
spot + *less* = *spotless*

sin + *ful* = *sinful*  
sad + *ly* = *sadly*  
mad + *ness* = *madness*

fit + *ness* = *fitness*  
fit + *ful* = *fitful*  
mad + *ly* = *madly*

#### Some common suffixes beginning with a *consonant*

- ◆ *ful*      sinful fitful manful
- ◆ *less*     witless spotless gutless
- ◆ *ly*        sadly madly badly
- ◆ *ment*     fitment shipment
- ◆ *ness*     fitness madness sadness
- ◆ *s*         sins fits spots hops

#### Some common suffixes beginning with a *vowel*

- ◆ *ed*        hopped spotted starred
- ◆ *en*        fatten sadden flatten
- ◆ *er*        fatter madder sinner
- ◆ *est*       fittest saddest biggest
- ◆ *ing*       dimming fitting winning
- ◆ *y*         spotty skinny witty