

# Past Tense of Become: Became and Become

Become is an irregular verb. The past tense is became. The past participle is become, the same as the base form, so use have become, not have became.

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Base              | become             |
| Past              | became             |
| Past participle   | become             |
| 3rd person / -ing | becomes / becoming |

## Examples

Leaves become red in autumn. — A regular fact in the present uses become with a plural subject.

I want to become a nurse. — After to, the verb stays become.

She became a teacher in 2020. — A finished year points to the past form became.

The sky became dark very fast last night. — Last night is finished, so use became.

He has become a good cook. — Has become uses the participle become.

It has become very hot this week. — This week goes with has become.

## Notes

**Became or become?** Use became for a finished time: She became a doctor in 2018. Use become after have, has, to or will: He has become a doctor. I want to become a doctor.

**Become plus noun or adjective** Become says that something changes: become a teacher, become angry, become famous. In everyday speech, get is common with adjectives: It gets cold at night.

## Common mistakes

She becomed a doctor. → She became a doctor. — Become is irregular, so the past is became, not becomed.

He has became a manager. → He has become a manager. — After has, use the participle become, not became.

I want to became a singer. → I want to become a singer. — After to, use the base form become.

## Exercises

### Choose the correct form

1. My brother \_\_\_ a doctor last year. (become / became / becomed)
2. It has \_\_\_ very cold today. (became / become / becoming)
3. I want to \_\_\_ a good singer. (become / became / becoming)
4. The weather \_\_\_ cold last night. (becomes / became / become)

### Write the missing form

1. She \_\_\_ a teacher last year.
2. He has \_\_\_ my best friend.
3. In winter it \_\_\_ dark early.

**Correct the mistake**

1. She has became a nurse.

## Answer key

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### Choose the correct form

1. became — Last year is finished, so use became.
2. become — After has, the participle is become.
3. become — After to, use the base form become.
4. became — Last night is finished, so use became.

### Write the missing form

1. became — Last year is finished, so the past is became.
2. become — Has takes the participle become.
3. becomes — A general present fact with it uses becomes.

### Correct the mistake

1. become — After has, use the participle become.

<https://www.fluencyroad.com/irregular-verbs/become>