

Past Tense of Buy: Bought and Bought

Buy is an irregular verb. The past tense and the past participle are the same form: bought. Do not say buyed.

Base	buy
Past	bought
Past participle	bought
3rd person / -ing	buys / buying

Examples

I buy bread at the corner shop every morning. — Every morning marks a present routine.

We buy fruit at the market on Saturdays. — On Saturdays describes a regular habit.

She bought a new bag yesterday. — Bought is the past form; it does not need have.

I bought these shoes last week. — Last week is a finished past time.

We have bought tickets for the show. — After have, the participle is bought.

He has bought a birthday gift for his mother. — The participle has the same form as the past.

Notes

Buy or by? Buy is the verb: buy a ticket. By is a small word: a book by a famous writer, go by bus. They sound the same, /baɪ/, but are spelled differently.

Bought or brought? Bought means paid for something: I bought bread. Brought means carried something here: I brought bread to the party. They are different verbs.

Common mistakes

I buyed a new phone. → I bought a new phone. — Buy is irregular. Its past form is bought, not buyed.

She has buy a ticket. → She has bought a ticket. — After has, use the past participle bought.

I went to the shop for buy milk. → I went to the shop to buy milk. — To show a purpose, use to plus the base form.

Exercises

Choose the right form

1. She ___ a new jacket yesterday. (bought / buyed / buy)
2. We have ___ the tickets. (buyed / bought / buying)
3. I always ___ milk at that shop. (buy / bought / buyed)
4. This book is ___ a famous writer. (buy / by / bye)

Write the missing form

1. My mom ___ a cake for my birthday last year.
2. They have ___ a new car.
3. He is ___ a gift now.

Correct the mistake

1. I buyed some apples yesterday.

Answer key

Choose the right form

1. bought — Yesterday is a finished past time, so use bought.
2. bought — Have takes the past participle bought.
3. buy — Always marks a present habit: I buy.
4. by — By shows who wrote it. Buy is the verb.

Write the missing form

1. bought — A finished past action uses bought.
2. bought — Have plus the participle is have bought.
3. buying — Now needs the -ing form: buying.

Correct the mistake

1. bought — The past of buy is bought, not bought.

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