

Past Tense of Grow: Grew and Grown

Grow is an irregular verb. Use grew for a finished action in the past. Use grown after have or has.

Base	grow
Past	grew
Past participle	grown
3rd person / -ing	grows / growing

Examples

Tomatoes grow well in the sun. — A general fact in the present uses grow.

Children grow fast. — Grow can mean get bigger.

My little brother grew a lot last year. — Last year is finished, so use grew.

The flowers grew quickly in spring. — Grew is the past simple; it does not need have.

The city has grown a lot. — Has grown connects the past with now.

You have grown since I saw you! — After have, use grown.

Notes

Grow up Grow up means change from a child to an adult. She grew up in Texas means she lived there as a child. People say I want to be a doctor when I grow up.

Grow means get, too Grow can also mean become: It grew dark. Use it for slow changes, like grow tired or grow older. In everyday speech, get is more common.

Common mistakes

The tree growed very tall. → The tree grew very tall. — Grow is irregular. The past is grew, not growed.

He has grew a lot. → He has grown a lot. — After has, use the past participle grown.

I grown up in a small town. → I grew up in a small town. — Grown needs have or has. For a finished past action, use grew.

Exercises

Choose the right form

1. The plant ___ a lot last summer. (grow / grew / grown)
2. Your son has ___ so much! (grew / growed / grown)
3. Rice ___ well in warm places, and it needs a lot of water. (grows / grew / grown)
4. I ___ up in a big city, but now I live in a small town. (grown / grew / grow)

Write the missing form

1. The town has ___ a lot in ten years.
2. My hair ___ very long last year.
3. Now they ___ vegetables in their garden.

Correct the mistake

1. She has grew very tall.

Answer key

Choose the right form

1. grew — Last summer is finished, so use grew.
2. grown — Has takes the past participle grown.
3. grows — A general fact in the present uses grows with rice (it).
4. grew — Now I live shows the first part is finished, so use grew. Grown needs have.

Write the missing form

1. grown — Has plus the past participle is has grown.
2. grew — Last year takes the past simple grew.
3. grow — A present habit with they uses grow.

Correct the mistake

1. grown — After has, use grown, not grew.

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