

Past Tense of Hear: Heard and Heard

Hear is an irregular verb. The past tense and the past participle are both heard. Both spelling and sound change from hear.

Base	hear
Past	heard
Past participle	heard
3rd person / -ing	hears / hearing

Examples

I hear music from the next room. — Hear means sounds reach your ears.

Can you hear me? — After can, the verb stays hear.

We heard a noise in the kitchen last night. — Last night is finished, so use heard.

She heard the news on TV this morning. — This morning is finished here, so the past is heard.

I have heard this song before. — Have heard uses the participle.

He has not heard from her since Monday. — The participle is heard, the same as the past.

Notes

How to say heard Heard is pronounced like bird, not like hear. It sounds exactly like herd, a group of cows. The two words are homophones.

Hear, here and listen Hear and here sound the same, but here means in this place: Come here. Hear is also different from listen. You hear a sound without trying, but you listen to music on purpose.

Common mistakes

I hearded a noise. → I heard a noise. — Hear is irregular, so the past is heard, not hearded.

She has hear the news. → She has heard the news. — After has, use the participle heard.

Come hear! → Come here! — Here means in this place. Hear is the verb for sounds.

Exercises

Choose the correct form

1. We ___ a noise in the kitchen last night. (hear / heard / hearded)
2. Have you ___ this song before? (hear / heard / hearing)
3. Come ___ and look at this. (here / hear / heard)
4. I can ___ the birds in the garden. (hear / heard / here)

Write the missing form

1. Yesterday evening she ___ the phone ring.
2. I have not ___ from my brother this week.
3. Can you ___ the music from there?

Correct the mistake

1. I hearded the news.

Answer key

Choose the correct form

1. heard — Last night is finished, so use heard.
2. heard — After have, use the participle heard.
3. here — Here means in this place.
4. hear — After can, use the verb hear.

Write the missing form

1. heard — Yesterday evening is finished, so use heard.
2. heard — After have, the participle is heard.
3. hear — After can, use the base form hear.

Correct the mistake

1. heard — The past of hear is heard.