

Past Tense of Run: Ran and Run

Run is an irregular verb. The past tense is ran. The past participle is run, the same as the base form, so say have run, not have ran.

Base	run
Past	ran
Past participle	run
3rd person / -ing	runs / running

Examples

I run in the park every morning. — Every morning marks a present habit.

We run to the bus stop when we are late. — This describes what we usually do.

She ran home in the rain yesterday. — Yesterday is finished, so use ran.

He ran to school this morning. — Ran is the past; it does not need have.

I have run to the station three times this week. — After have, use the participle run.

She has run to the park today. — Has run is present perfect.

Notes

Ran or run? Use ran for a finished time: He ran home yesterday. Use run after have or has: He has run home. The participle looks like the base form, so the helper verb is the clue.

Running doubles the n The -ing form is running, with two n's. People also say go running or go for a run. Run can also mean manage: she runs a small shop.

Common mistakes

I runned to school. → I ran to school. — Run is irregular, so the past is ran, not runned.

She has ran home. → She has run home. — After has, use the participle run, not ran.

He is runing in the park. → He is running in the park. — The -ing form doubles the n: running.

Exercises

Choose the correct form

1. He ___ to school yesterday. (run / ran / runned)
2. We have ___ to the park today. (ran / run / running)
3. I ___ in the park every Sunday. (run / ran / runned)
4. She is ___ to the bus now. (runing / running / runned)

Write the missing form

1. The dog ___ across the road last night.
2. I have ___ every day this week.
3. They are ___ in the park.

Correct the mistake

1. She has ran to school.

Answer key

Choose the correct form

1. ran — Yesterday is finished, so use ran.
2. run — After have, the participle is run.
3. run — Every Sunday describes a present habit.
4. running — The -ing form doubles the n: running.

Write the missing form

1. ran — Last night is finished, so the past is ran.
2. run — After have, the participle is run.
3. running — Running has two n's.

Correct the mistake

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