

# Past Tense of Show: Showed and Shown

The past tense of show is showed. The past participle is shown; showed is also accepted but less common. Use shown after have or has.

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Base              | show            |
| Past              | showed          |
| Past participle   | shown / showed  |
| 3rd person / -ing | shows / showing |

## Examples

Please show me your photo. — Show means let someone see something.

The signs show the way to the park. — With a plural subject, the present verb stays show.

She showed me her new phone yesterday. — Yesterday is finished, so use showed.

He showed us the photos last night. — Last night marks a finished past action.

I have shown my card at the door. — After have, shown is the usual form.

They have shown the film two times this week. — This week goes with the present perfect.

## Notes

**Shown or showed?** Use showed for the simple past: She showed me the photo. The participle is usually shown: She has shown me the photo. Showed is also accepted after have, but shown is more common.

**Show, not shown, after to and can** After to, can or will, use the base form: Can you show me the way? I want to show you something.

## Common mistakes

I showned her the photo. → I showed her the photo. — The past of show ends in -ed: showed, never showned.

He has show me the room. → He has shown me the room. — After has, use the participle shown (or showed).

She shown me her book yesterday. → She showed me her book yesterday. — Shown needs have or has. For a finished past action, use showed.

## Exercises

### Choose the correct form

1. She \_\_\_ me her photos yesterday. (show / showed / shown)
2. He has \_\_\_ me the way. (show / shown / shows)
3. Can you \_\_\_ me the way to the station? (show / showed / shown)
4. The sign \_\_\_ the way to the beach. (show / shows / shown)

### Write the missing form

1. My teacher \_\_\_ us a video last week.
2. They have \_\_\_ the film already.
3. I am \_\_\_ my mom the photos.

**Correct the mistake**

1. He showed me the room.

## Answer key

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### Choose the correct form

1. showed — Yesterday is finished, so use showed.
2. shown — After has, the usual participle is shown.
3. show — After can, use the base form show.
4. shows — A singular subject in the present takes shows.

### Write the missing form

1. showed — Last week is finished, so the past is showed.
2. shown — After have, use shown. Showed is also accepted.
3. showing — After am, use the -ing form showing.

### Correct the mistake

1. showed — The past of show is showed.

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