

Past Tense of Think: Thought

Think is an irregular verb. The past and the past participle are the same word: thought. Do not add -ed to think.

Base	think
Past	thought
Past participle	thought
3rd person / -ing	thinks / thinking

Examples

I think it is a good idea. — Think gives an opinion in the present.

What do you think about this film? — After do, the verb stays as think.

She thought the test was easy. — Thought is the past form; it needs no helper.

We thought about moving to the city. — Think about means consider an idea.

I have thought about it a lot. — After have, the participle is also thought.

He has thought of a new name for his dog. — Think of means find an idea.

Notes

Think of or think about? Think about means to consider something for a time: I am thinking about my vacation. Think of means to come up with or remember something: I cannot think of his name. To ask for an opinion you can use either: What do you think of this film? What do you think about this film?

Pronunciation Thought is pronounced /θɔt/ and rhymes with bought. The gh is silent.

Common mistakes

I thinked about it. → I thought about it. — Think is irregular: the past is thought, never thinked.

She has think of a plan. → She has thought of a plan. — After has or have, use the past participle thought.

I am thinking it is good. → I think it is good. — To give an opinion, use the simple form think, not the -ing form.

Exercises

Choose the right form

1. Do you ___ it will rain tomorrow? (think / thought / thinks)
2. Last night we ___ about our trip. (think / thought / thinked)
3. She has ___ about it all week. (think / thinks / thought)
4. Right now, my brother ___ that English is fun. (think / thinks / thought)

Write the missing form

1. I have ___ of a good answer.
2. She ___ the film was long.
3. What do you ___ about this song?

Correct the mistake

1. I thinked it was easy.

Answer key

Choose the right form

1. think — After do, the verb stays in the base form think.
2. thought — Last night is past, so use thought.
3. thought — After has, use the participle thought.
4. thinks — Right now is present and brother takes thinks.

Write the missing form

1. thought — Have plus the past participle is have thought.
2. thought — The past form is thought.
3. think — After do, the verb stays in the base form.

Correct the mistake

1. thought — The past form is thought, not thinked.

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