

Spelling rules

- Rule 1** q must be followed by u (the kw sounds is always written qu)
- Rule 2** Every syllable needs a vowel or y (u after q does not count) litt-le qui-et
- Rule 3** English words cannot end in i, u, v or j (taxi and ski are foreign words)
- Rule 4** c says s before e, i, or y (g may say j before e, i, or y but doesn't always)
- Rule 5** Long i sound is written as y, not i, at the end of a word fry, cry
- Rule 6** Use sh at the beginning and end of words (or in words with ship like friendship).
Use ti, ci or si in the middle of words. Use si after an s impression. si can say zh
- Rule 7** Except in short one syllable words, all is spelled al ball, already
- Rule 8** till and full become til and ful at the end of a word until beautiful
- Rule 9** The -ed ending says d or t (except in words ending in d or t, where it says ed)
- Rule 10** i before e except after c, when saying ee
- Rule 11** Generally, in one syllable words with a penultimate short vowel, double the final s, l, z, f and c (c 'doubles' to ck) Common exceptions are gas and bus.
- Rule 12** When adding an ending which starts with a vowel, drop the e from the base word (hope becomes hop-ing, bake becomes bak-ing)
- Rule 13** When adding an ending which starts with a vowel to a base word (or syllable) with a single vowel and consonant, double the consonant (hop becomes hopping)
- Rule 14** When adding endings with a vowel to words ending in y, change the y to i
funny become funniest or funnier
- Rule 15** Silent e
- (i) 'magic e' changes sound of vowel cake
 - (ii) to soften c to s, or g to j change change
 - (iii) to end a word which would otherwise end in v have
 - (iv) simply because every syllable needs a vowel litt-le
 - (v) archaic usage – no longer sounded out goose