Double consonants

hop

Short vowel sound

1 syllable

1 consonant at the end

hop +p +ing

Before you add a suffix (ending), you have to **double the last consonant** in order to keep the short vowel sound

hopping

What if you add the ending '-ed'?

hop

Short vowel sound

1 syllable

1 consonant at the end

hop +p +ed

hopped

Try these examples

skip

Add the suffix (ending) '-ed'

skip +p +ed
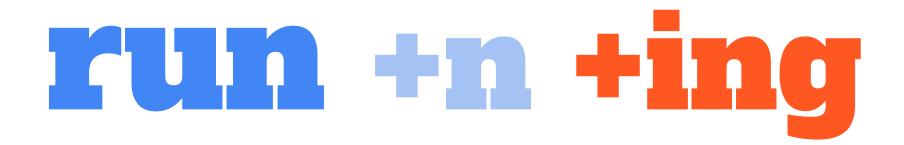
skipped

run

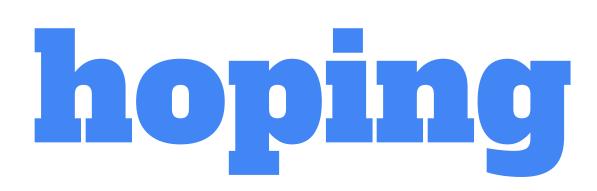Add the suffix (ending) '-ing'

run +n +ing

running

What happens if you don't double the consonant?

hop

Add the suffix (ending) '**-ing**' without doubling the last consonant

hop +ing

hoping

The vowel sound becomes long
(like in hope)

➜ **you get a different word**
(or sometimes not a word at all - try with 'skip' and 'run')

So what's the rule?

hop

Short vowel sound

1 syllable

1 consonant at the end

hop → hopping

Short vowel sound

1 syllable

1 consonant at the end

Short vowel sound

2 syllables

Double consonant before the suffix

hope

Long vowel sound

1 syllable

A vowel follows the last consonant

hope → hoping

Long vowel sound

1 syllable

Vowel after the consonant

Long vowel sound

2 syllables

Suffix directly added

hop

Short vowel sound

1 syllable

1 consonant at the end

hope

Long vowel sound

1 syllable

Vowel after the last consonant

hopping

hoping

Short vowel sound

Long vowel sound

2 syllables

2 syllables

Double consonant before the suffix

Suffix directly added

If the word has a **short vowel sound,** has **1 syllable** and **1 consonant at the end** → **double the consonant** and then add the suffix (to keep the short vowel sound).

If the word has a **long vowel sound, 1 syllable** and **a vowel after the consonant** → don't double the consonant, **add the suffix directly** (to keep the long vowel sound).