


W/c	Spelling Rule	Guidance	Example words	Wordlist
8/9	Endings which sound like /ʃəs/ spelt – cious	Not many common words end like this. If the root word ends in –ce , the /ʃ/ sound is usually spelt as c – e.g. <i>vice – vicious, grace – gracious, space – spacious, malice – malicious.</i> Exception: <i>anxious.</i>	vicious, precious, conscious, delicious, malicious, suspicious	Accommodate, accompany
15/9	Endings which sound like /ʃəs/ spelt – tious		ambitious, cautious, fictitious, infectious, nutritious	According, achieve
22/9	Endings which sound like /ʃəl/ spelt – cial	–cial is common after a vowel letter, but there are some exceptions. Exceptions: initial, financial, commercial, provincial (the spelling of the last three is clearly related to <i>finance, commerce</i> and <i>province</i>).	official, special, artificial,	Aggressive, amateur
29/9	Endings which sound like /ʃəl/ spelt - tial	–tial is common after a consonant letter, but there are some exceptions. Exceptions: initial, financial, commercial, provincial (the spelling of the last three is clearly related to <i>finance, commerce</i> and <i>province</i>).	partial, confidential, essential	Ancient, apparent
6/10	Words ending in –ant, –ance/–ancy,	Use –ant and –ance/–ancy if there is a related word with a /æ/ or /eɪ/ sound in the right position; –ation endings are often a clue.	observant, observance, (observ <u>a</u> tion), expectant (expect <u>a</u> tion), hesitant, hesitancy (hesit <u>a</u> tion), tolerant, tolerance (toler <u>a</u> tion), substance (subst <u>a</u> ntial)	Appreciate, attached
20/10	Words ending in –ent –ence/–ency	Use –ent and –ence/–ency after soft c (/s/ sound), soft g (/dʒ/ sound) and qu , or if there is a related word with a clear /ɛ/ sound in the right position.	innocent, innocence, decent, decency, frequent, frequency, confident, confidence (confidential)	Available, average

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3/11	Words ending in –ant, –ance/–ancy, –ent, –ence/–ency	There are many words, however, where the above guidance does not help. These words just have to be learnt.	assistant, assistance, obedient, obedience, independent, independence	Awkward, bargain
10/11	Words ending in –able and –ible Words ending in –ably and –ibly	The –able/–ably endings are far more common than the –ible/–ibly endings. As with –ant and –ance/–ancy , the –able ending is used if there is a related word ending in –ation .	adorable/adorably (adoration), applicable/applicably (application), considerable/considerably (consideration), tolerable/tolerably (toleration)	Bruise, category
17/11	Words ending in –able and –ible Words ending in –ably and –ibly	If the –able ending is added to a word ending in –ce or –ge , the e after the c or g must be kept as those letters would otherwise have their ‘hard’ sounds (as in <i>cap</i> and <i>gap</i>) before the a of the –able ending.	changeable, noticeable, forcible, legible	Cemetery, committee
24/11	Words ending in –able and –ible Words ending in –ably and –ibly	The –able ending is usually but not always used if a complete root word can be heard before it, even if there is no related word ending in –ation . The first five examples opposite are obvious; in <i>reliable</i> , the complete word <i>rely</i> is heard, but the y changes to i in accordance with the rule.	dependable, comfortable, understandable, reasonable, enjoyable, reliable	Communicate, community
1/12	Words ending in –able and –ible Words ending in –ably and –ibly	The –ible ending is common if a complete root word can’t be heard before it but it also sometimes occurs when a complete word <i>can</i> be heard (e.g. <i>sensible</i>).	possible/possibly, horrible/horribly, terrible/terribly, visible/visibly, incredible/incredibly, sensible/sensibly	Competition, conscience
8/12	Use of the hyphen	Hyphens can be used to join a prefix to a root word, especially if the prefix ends in a vowel letter and the root word also begins with one.	co-ordinate, re-enter, co-operate, co-own	Conscious, controversy

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5/1	Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words ending in –fer	The r is doubled if the –fer is still stressed when the ending is added.	referring, referred, referral, preferring, preferred, transferring, transferred	Convenience, correspond
12/1	Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words ending in –fer	The r is not doubled if the –fer is no longer stressed.	reference, referee, preference, transference	Criticise, curiosity
19/1	Words with the /i:/ sound spelt ei after c	The ‘i before e except after c’ rule applies to words where the sound spelt by ei is /i:/. Exceptions: <i>protein, caffeine, seize</i> (and <i>either</i> and <i>neither</i> if pronounced with an initial /i:/ sound).	deceive, conceive, receive, perceive, ceiling	Definite, desperate
26/1	Words containing the letter-string ough	ough is one of the trickiest spellings in English – it can be used to spell a number of different sounds.	ought, bought, thought, nought, brought, fought	Definitely, accommodation
2/2	Words containing the letter-string ough	ough is one of the trickiest spellings in English – it can be used to spell a number of different sounds.	rough, tough, enough	Develop, desperately
9/2	Words containing the letter-string ough	ough is one of the trickiest spellings in English – it can be used to spell a number of different sounds.	cough	Dictionary, disaster, forty

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1	Words containing the letter-string ough	ough is one of the trickiest spellings in English – it can be used to spell a number of different sounds.	though, although, dough	Disastrous, embarrass, frequently
2	Words containing the letter-string ough	ough is one of the trickiest spellings in English – it can be used to spell a number of different sounds.	through	Environment, equip, government
3	Words containing the letter-string ough	ough is one of the trickiest spellings in English – it can be used to spell a number of different sounds.	thorough, borough	Equipped, especially, foreign
4	Words containing the letter-string ough	ough is one of the trickiest spellings in English – it can be used to spell a number of different sounds.	plough, bough	Equipment, exaggerate, familiar
5	Words with 'silent' letters (i.e. letters whose presence cannot be predicted from the pronunciation of the word)	Some letters which are no longer sounded used to be sounded hundreds of years ago: e.g. in <i>knight</i> , there was a /k/ sound before the /n/, and the gh used to represent the sound that 'ch' now represents in the Scottish word <i>loch</i> .	doubt, island, lamb, solemn, thistle, knight	Excellent, existence, explanation

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1 - 4	Homophones and other words that are often confused	<p>In the pairs of words opposite, nouns end –ce and verbs end –se. <i>Advice</i> and <i>advise</i> provide a useful clue as the word <i>advise</i> (verb) is pronounced with a /z/ sound – which could not be spelt c.</p> <p><u>More examples:</u> aisle: a gangway between seats (in a church, train, plane). isle: an island. aloud: out loud. allowed: permitted. affect: usually a verb (e.g. <i>The weather may affect our plans</i>). effect: usually a noun (e.g. <i>It may have an effect on our plans</i>). If a verb, it means ‘bring about’ (e.g. <i>He will effect changes in the running of the business</i>). altar: a table-like piece of furniture in a church. alter: to change. ascent: the act of ascending (going up). assent: to agree/agreement (verb and noun). bridal: to do with a bride at a wedding. bridle: reins etc. for controlling a horse. cereal: made from grain (e.g. breakfast cereal). serial: adjective from the noun <i>series</i> – a succession of things one after the other. compliment: to make nice remarks about someone (verb) or the remark that is made (noun). complement: related to the word <i>complete</i> – to make something complete or more complete (e.g. <i>her scarf complemented her outfit</i>).</p>	<p>In the pairs of words opposite, nouns end –ce and verbs end –se. <i>Advice</i> and <i>advise</i> provide a useful clue as the word <i>advise</i> (verb) is pronounced with a /z/ sound – which could not be spelt c.</p> <p><u>More examples:</u> aisle: a gangway between seats (in a church, train, plane). isle: an island. aloud: out loud. allowed: permitted. affect: usually a verb (e.g. <i>The weather may affect our plans</i>). effect: usually a noun (e.g. <i>It may have an effect on our plans</i>). If a verb, it means ‘bring about’ (e.g. <i>He will effect changes in the running of the business</i>). altar: a table-like piece of furniture in a church. alter: to change. ascent: the act of ascending (going up). assent: to agree/agreement (verb and noun). bridal: to do with a bride at a wedding. bridle: reins etc. for controlling a horse. cereal: made from grain (e.g. breakfast cereal). serial: adjective from the noun <i>series</i> – a succession of things one after the other. compliment: to make nice remarks about someone (verb) or the remark that is made (noun). complement: related to the word <i>complete</i> – to make something complete or more complete (e.g. <i>her scarf complemented her outfit</i>).</p>	<p>Revisit and retest previous phases wordlist</p> 

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