

Doubling Letters at the End of Words

Avoid Spelling Mistakes

MCLENNAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE - WRITING CENTER

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Get to know these rules:

- When a word changes from one form to another, double the last letter if it is a single consonant preceded by a single vowel: step, stepping; let, letting; sit sitting.
- Two-syllable words with accents on the second syllable also double when changing form: regret, regretted; transfer, transferred; prefer, preferring.
- If a word ends in a double consonant or if the single consonant is preceded by two vowels, the consonant is not double as the word changes: (1) ask, asked (ask ends in a double consonant; therefore the final consonant is not doubled. (2) meet, meeting; eat, eating; conceal, concealed (the final consonant is not doubled as the word changes).
- If the accent is not on the last syllable, do not double: offer, offered.