Regular and irregular verbs: British and American differences

In American English the verbs **burn, dream, lean, learn, smell, spell, spill** and **spoil** are all regular.

- **Burn** / burned / burned
- **Dream** / dreamed / dreamed
- **Lean** / leaned / leaned
- **Learn** / learned / learned
- **Smell** / smelled / smelled
- **Spell** / spelled / spelled
- **Spill** / spilled / spilled
- **Spoil** / spoiled / spoiled

In British English, these verbs are usually irregular with past tenses and past participle forms ending in **-t**.

- **Burn** / burnt / burnt
- **Dream** / dreamt / dreamt
- **Lean** / leant / leant
- **Learn** / learnt / learnt
- **Smell** / smelt / smelt
- **Spell** / spelt / spelt
- **Spill** / spilt / spilt
- **Spoil** / spoilt / spoilt

Note that regular forms are also used in British English, but they are much less common.

In American English, **spit** has both **spit** and **spat** as past tense and past participle.

**Quit** and **wet** are regular in British English.

- **Quit** / quitted / quitted
- **Wet** / wetted / wetted

In American English these verbs are irregular

- **Quit** / quit / quit
- **Wet** / wet / wet

**Dive** is regular in British English, but can be irregular in American English.

- **Dive** / dived / dived (GB)
- **Dive** / dove / dived (US)
In American English, the past participle of *get* can be *got* or *gotten*. 