***Doubling consonants***

*( stop/ stopping/ stopped, hot / hotter / hottest, etc.)*

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| Sometimes a verb or an adjective ends in ***consonant - vowel - consonant.***  For example:  **Stop plan rob hot thin wet** pre**fer b**e**gin**  We double the final consonant **( - pp, -nn**, etc. ) of these words, before –**ing,** **-ed**, **-er**, and **–est**:  stop / sto**pp**ing / sto**pp**ed plan / pla**nn**ing / pla**nn**ed rob / ro**bb**ing / ro**bb**ed  hot / ho**tt**er / ho**tt**est thin / thi**nn**er thi**nn**est wet /we**tt**er / we**tt**est |
| If the word has more than one syllable ( **prefer, begin**, etc.), double the final consonant only if the  Final syllable is stressed:  prefer / prefe**rr**ing / prefe**rr**ed subMIT / submi**tt**ing / submi**tt**ed  reGRET / regre**tt**ing / regre**tt**ed beGIN / begi**nn**ing / |
| If the final syllable is *not* stressed, do *not* double the final consonant:  VISit / visi**t**ing / visi**t**ed develop / develo**p**ing / develo**p**ed  LISten / liste**n**ing / liste**n**ed reMEMber / remembe**r**ing / remembe**r**ed |
| If the final syllable is *not* stressed, and the last consonant is **l,** the consonant may be single or doubled.  trave**l**  / trave**l**ing / trave**l**ed or trave**ll**ing / trave**ll**ed  cance**l** / cance**l**ing / cance**l**ed or cance**ll**ing / cance**ll**ed |
| Do *not* double the final consonant if the word ends in two consonants ( **-rt, -rn, -ck**, etc.):  sta**rt** / star**t**ing / star**t**ed tu**rn** / tur**n**ing / tur**n**ed thi**ck** / thic**k**er / thic**k**est |
| Do *not* double the final consonant if there are two vowel letters before it ( **-oil, -eed, -ain**, etc.):  b**oil** / boi**l**ing / boi**l**ed n**eed** / nee**d**ing / nee**d**ed expl**ain** / explai**n**ing / explai**n**ed  ch**eap** / chea**p**er / chea**p**est l**oud** / lou**d**er / lou**d**est qu**iet** / quie**t**er / quie**t**est |
| Do *not* double the **y** or **w** at the end of words. (The end of words with **y** and **w** are not consonants.  Instead, they are part of the vowel sound.  Stay / staying / stayed grow / growing new / newer / newest |