

What are homophones?

Homophones are words that sound the same, but have different spellings and meanings, e.g. flower and flour.

You need to learn these words as there are no spelling rules to help you remember them.

Here is a list of common homophones.

Homophones	Examples
allowed aloud	You are not <u>allowed</u> to smoke until you are 16. She spoke her thoughts <u>aloud</u> (to say something so it can be heard).
bear bare	A <u>bear</u> is a large furry animal. She walked on the beach with <u>bare</u> feet.
bored board	To be <u>bored</u> is to have lost interest in something. A <u>board</u> is a flat piece of wood.
break brake	If you <u>break</u> something you damage it. When you <u>brake</u> the car slows down.
caught court	He <u>caught</u> a large fish. You play tennis on a tennis <u>court</u> .
check cheque	Did you <u>check</u> that the door is locked? You can write a <u>cheque</u> to pay your bills.
find fined	I can't <u>find</u> my socks. She was <u>fined</u> £40 for driving too fast on the motorway.
flower flour	A daffodil or a rose is a <u>flower</u> . You need some <u>flour</u> to make the birthday cake.
hair hare	She has really long <u>hair</u> . A <u>hare</u> is an animal like a rabbit.
here hear	Please come over <u>here</u> . Can you <u>hear</u> that noise?
heal heel	His leg is broken, but it will <u>heal</u> (get better). Your <u>heel</u> is at the back of your foot.
hire higher	When we go to Spain we'll <u>hire</u> a car. The mountain was <u>higher</u> than the clouds.
hour our	There are 60 minutes in an <u>hour</u> . This is <u>our</u> house.
maid made	The <u>maid</u> cleaned all of the 15 rooms. I <u>made</u> the bed this morning.
new knew	I spilt wine on my brand <u>new</u> shirt. I <u>knew</u> the answers to all the questions.
one won	There was only <u>one</u> piece of birthday cake left. She <u>won</u> the running race.
pear pair	I ate a <u>pear</u> and a banana for breakfast. I won the card game with a <u>pair</u> of aces.
piece peace	I ate a very large <u>piece</u> of pie. He went on a march for world <u>peace</u> .

Homophones	Examples
plain plane	I painted over the wallpaper in a <u>plain</u> colour. The <u>plane</u> landed late because of heavy fog.
pour poor paw	Can you please <u>pour</u> some milk on my cereal? He grew up in a <u>poor</u> neighbourhood. The cat hurt his <u>paw</u> in a fight.
saw sore	He cut the tree down with a <u>saw</u> . His ankle was <u>sore</u> after he fell over.
see sea	She couldn't <u>see</u> without her glasses. I went swimming in the <u>sea</u> while on holiday.
shore sure	She built a sandcastle by the <u>shore</u> . I'm <u>sure</u> that I turned the oven off. (to be absolutely certain)
sight site	Don't let the children out of your <u>sight</u> . There were four cranes on the building <u>site</u> .
stairs stares	She ran down the <u>stairs</u> to answer the phone. He <u>stares</u> out of the window at the neighbours.
steal steel	The thief got caught trying to <u>steal</u> the diamond. The buildings were made of <u>steel</u> and glass.
they're their there	<u>They're</u> is a shorter way to say they are. It was <u>their</u> dog that bit the postman. The supermarket is over <u>there</u> .
through threw	I walked <u>through</u> the door into the room. She <u>threw</u> the ball a long way.
to too two	He isn't going <u>to</u> work today. <u>Too</u> is another way to say as well. <u>Two</u> is the number between one and three.
waste waist	Waiting for the wrong train was a <u>waste</u> of time. Her old dress was a bit tight around the <u>waist</u> .
week weak	A <u>week</u> is seven days long. He was too <u>weak</u> to lift the heavy box.
where wear	<u>Where</u> are you going tonight? Which tee-shirt are you going to <u>wear</u> out?
whether weather	I'm not sure <u>whether</u> to phone her or not. Sun, rain, wind and snow are types of <u>weather</u> .
which witch	<u>Which</u> ice cream would you like? The <u>witch</u> was seen flying on a broomstick.
whole hole	Two halves make a <u>whole</u> . There was a <u>hole</u> in his sock.
worn warn	I am tired and <u>worn</u> out. He tried to <u>warn</u> her about the wet floor.
would wood	<u>Would</u> you like a drink? <u>Wood</u> comes from trees.
write right	I must <u>write</u> a letter to my friend soon. <u>Right</u> is the opposite of left.