

-RE Verbs Notes key

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-RE Verbs

Notes

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-RE Verbs

Verbs with infinitives ending in **-RE** form a third group of regular verbs, often called 'third conjugation' verbs. To form the present tense conjugations of these verbs, drop the **-re** from the infinitive and add the third conjugation endings (**-s, -s, -, ons, ez, ent**) to the resulting stem. As you listen, note especially that the final **-d** and **-ds** in the singular forms are **silent**. In the third person plural the **'d'** consonant sound of the stem is pronounced because of the **-ent** ending. Can you hear the difference in the pronunciation of the singular and plural forms of the third person? (il vs. ils)

descendre 'to go down'	
je descend s	nous descend ons
tu descend s	vous descend ez
il/elle/on descend	ils/elles descend ent

Here is a list of common regular **-re** verbs:

attendre, to wait	rendre, to hand in, give back
dépendre de, to depend (on)	rendre visite à quelqu'un, to visit someone
entendre, to hear	répondre, to answer, respond
pendre, to hang	vendre, to sell
perdre, to lose	



IRREGULAR -RE Verbs

PRENDRE-LIKE VERBS

Verbs like **prendre** are conjugated like regular -re verbs in the singular, but not in the plural. Note the difference in the stem in the plural forms.

prendre 'to take'	
je prends	nous prenons
tu prends	vous prenez
il/elle/on prend	ils/elles prennent

Verbs conjugated like **prendre** include:

- apprendre**, to learn
- comprendre**, to understand
- surprendre**, to surprise

METTRE-LIKE VERBS

The verb **mettre** is also irregular. Listen carefully to its forms in the present.

mettre 'to place, put'	
je mets	nous mettons
tu mets	vous mettez
il/elle/on met	ils/elles mettent

Mettre literally means 'to place, to put.' It is also used in the following expressions:

- mettre la table (le couvert)**, to set the table
- mettre** + article of clothing, to put on
- mettre** + electrical item (radio, light), to turn on

Other verbs like **mettre** include:

- admettre**, to admit
- permettre**, to permit

-RE VERBS

promettre, to promise

remettre, to turn in (a report), to postpone