

Spalding Spelling Rules:

Rules of pronunciation, spelling and language

1. The letter *q* is always followed by *u* and together they say *kw* (*queen*). The *u* is not considered a vowel here.
2. The letter *c* before *e*, *i*, or *y* says *s* (*cent, city, cycle*), but followed by any other letter says *k* (*cat, cot, cut*).
3. The letter *g* before *e*, *i*, or *y* may say *j* (*page, giant, gym*), but followed by any other letter says *g* (*gate, go, gust*). The letters *e* and *i* following *g* do not always make the *g* say *j* (*get, girl, give*).
4. Vowels *a*, *e*, *o*, and *u* usually say *a*, *e*, *o*, and *u* at the end of a syllable (*navy, me, open, music*).
5. The letters *i* and *y* usually say *i* (*big, gym*), but may say *i* (*silent, my, type*).
6. The letter *y*, not *i*, is used at the end of an English word (*my*).
7. There are five kinds of silent final *e*'s.

<u>t</u> ime		The <i>e</i> lets the <i>i</i> say <i>i</i> (Job 1).
h <u>a</u> ve	bl <u>u</u> e	English words do not end in <i>v</i> or <i>u</i> (Job 2).
ch <u>a</u> nce	ch <u>a</u> rge	The <i>e</i> lets the <i>c</i> say <i>s</i> and <i>g</i> say <i>j</i> (Job 3).
lit t <u>l</u> e		Every syllable must have a vowel (Job 4).
<u>a</u> re		Remnant of Old English (Job 5).
8. There are five spellings for the sound *er*. The phonogram *or* may say *er* when it follows *w* (*work*).

Her first nurse works early.
9. For **one** syllable words that have **one** vowel and end in **one** consonant (*hop*), write another final consonant (*hop+ped*) before adding ending that begin with a vowel. This is the **one-one-one** rule.

10. Words of **two** syllables (*begin*) in which the second syllable (*gin*) is accented and ends in **one** consonant, with **one** vowel before it, need another final consonant (*be gin + ning*) before adding an ending that begins with a vowel. This is the **two-one-one** rule.
11. Words ending with a silent final *e* (*come*) are written without the *e* when adding an ending that begins with a vowel.
12. After *c* we use *ei* (*receive*). If we say *a*, we use *ei* (*vein*). In the list of exceptions, we use *ei*. In all other words, the phonogram *ie* is used.
13. The phonogram *sh* is used at the beginning or end of a base word (*she, dish*), at the end of a syllable (*fin ish*), but never at the beginning of a syllable after the first one except for the ending *ship* (*wor ship, friend ship*).
14. The phonograms *ti*, *si*, and *ci* are the spellings most frequently used to say *sh* at the beginning of a second or subsequent syllable in a base word (*na tion, ses sion, fa cial*).
15. The phonogram *si* is used to say *sh* when the syllable before it ends in an *s* (*ses sion*) or when the base word has an *s* where the base word changes (*tense, ten sion*).
16. The phonogram *si* may also say *zh* as in *vi sion*.
17. We often double *l*, *f*, and *s* following a single vowel at the end of a one-syllable word (*will, off, miss*). Rule 17 sometimes applies to two-syllable words like *recess*.
18. We often use *ay* to say *a* at the end of a base word, never *a* alone.
19. Vowels *i* and *o* may say *i* and *o* if followed by two consonants (*find, old*).
20. The letter *s* never follows *x*. The phonogram *x* includes an *s* sound (*ks*).

21. *All*, written alone, has two l's, but when written with another syllable only one l is written (*al so*, *al most*).

22. *Till* and *full*, written alone, have two l's, but when used as a suffix, only one l is written (*un til*, *beau, ti ful*).

23. The phonogram *dge* may be used only after a single vowel that says *a*, *e*, *i*, *o*, or *u* (*badge*, *edge*, *bridge*, *lodge*, *budge*).

24. When adding an ending to a word that ends with a consonant and *y*, use *i* instead of *y* unless the ending is *ing*.

25. The phonogram *ck* may be used only after a single vowel that says *a*, *e*, *i*, *o*, or *u* (*back*, *neck*, *lick*, *rock*, *duck*).

26. Words that are the names or titles of people, places, books, days, or months are capitalized (*Mary*, *Honolulu*, *Amazon River*, *Bible*, *Monday*, *July*).

27. Words *beginning* with the sound *z* are always spelled with *z*, never *s* (*zoo*).

28. The phonogram *ed* has three sounds. If a base word ends in the sound *d* or *t*, adding *ed* makes another syllable that says *ed* (*sid ed*, *part ed*). If the base word ends in a voiced consonant sound, the ending *ed* says *d* (*lived*). If the base word ends in an unvoiced consonant sound, the ending *ed* says *t* (*jumped*).

29. Words are usually divided between double consonants. For speaking and reading, only the consonant in the accented syllable is pronounced; the consonant in the unaccented syllable is silent (*lit' le*).