

Silent E rule

Drop the final **E** from a word when adding -al, -ed, -ing, -able, -ate (suffixes beginning with vowels)

Ex:

remove-removal

date-dating

love-lovable

Don't drop the final **E** from a word when adding any other suffix (suffixes beginning with consonants)

Ex:

love-lovely

care-careful

Ex:

(silent e) (silent e)
The adorable pup was loved by
(silent e) (silent e)
his lovely new playmates.

PRACTICE THE CONVERSATION:

- A:** Read the sentence at the bottom, please.
- B:** *The adorable pup was loved by his lovely new playmates.*
- A:** Great. Which of these words have a silent-E word as a root word?
- B:** Four of them. *Adorable, loved, lovely, playmates.*
- A:** Yes. And can you turn those into their silent-E roots?
- B:** Sure. *Adore, love, love, playmate.*
- A:** Why does the “E” stay on some of those words and get dropped on others?
- B:** The silent E has to stay on the word unless it's replaced by another vowel. So if the suffix starts with a vowel, the “E” can go. If there's no vowel, the “E” has to stay.
- A:** Good explanation!
- B:** Thank you.

