

Spelling rule—Doubling the consonants

When a word ends in one consonant, right after one vowel, double the consonant before adding a suffix.

Ex:

hop–hopping
map–mapping
hit–hitting

Ex:

(double consonant) (double consonant)
Chef snipped and then chopped
(double consonant)
while sitting down.

PRACTICE THE CONVERSATION:

- A:** Read the sentence, please.
- B:** *Chef snipped and then chopped while sitting down.*
- A:** Great. What are the three underlined words?
- B:** *Snipped, chopped, sitting.*
- A:** Good. Now what's the spelling rule that applies to these words?
- B:** The consonants get doubled when you add a suffix like –ed or –ies.
- A:** Yes. So what were these words before? What are the root words?
- B:** *Snip, chop, sit.* They each end in one consonant after one vowel, which means the rule applies.
- A:** What would happen if you didn't double the consonant?
- B:** Well, a sniper would be a sniper.
- A:** Not good.
- B:** Nope.
- A:** Great work.

