Spelling Rules –ING

Base form

Infinitive  ING form

to feel   feeling

to go      going

to work    working

to sleep   sleeping

Spelling exceptions

1). If the verb ends in an E we remove the E and add ING.

Infinitive  ING form

to live    living

2). If the one-syllable verb ends in a consonant + vowel + consonant, we double the final consonant and add ING.

Infinitive  ING form

to stop    stopping

to sit      sitting

to plan   planning

to get      getting

to swim    swimming

3). But, we do not double the final consonant when the verb ends in W, X or Y or when the final syllable is not emphasized.

Infinitive  ING form

to fix      fixing

to enjoy   enjoying

to snow    snowing

4). If a two-syllable verb ends in a consonant + vowel + consonant, we do not double the final consonant when the stress is on the first syllable.

Infinitive  ING form

to happen   happening

to enter    entering

to offer   offering

to suffer   suffering

5). If the verb ends in consonant + vowel + L, we normally double the final L and add ING.

Infinitive  ING form  (UK)  ING form  (US)

to travel   travelling  traveling

to marvel   marvelling  marveling
Note: In the United States (US) they do not double the L when the accent is on the first syllable.

6). If the verb ends in a stressed vowel + R, we double the final R and add ING.

**Infinitive** **ING form**

refer referring

defer deferring

7). If the verb ends in an unstressed vowel + R, we do **not** double the final R and add ING.

**Infinitive** **ING form**

to offer offering

to suffer suffering

to whisper whispering