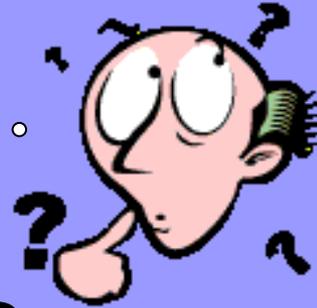




Words that have the same  
sound...

To, too or  
two?



# Recognising homophones



...but a different spelling and meaning

[Click here for puzzles  
on homophones families](#)

[Click to begin to study homophones](#)

## Click on the homophones to study their meanings

<a href="#">to, too, two</a>	<a href="#">where, wear</a>	<a href="#">we're were</a>	<a href="#">there, their, they're</a>	<a href="#">hear, here</a>
<a href="#">bare, bear</a>	<a href="#">hare, hair</a>	<a href="#">bee, be</a>	<a href="#">sauce, source</a>	<a href="#">site, sight</a>
<a href="#">reed, read</a>	<a href="#">write, right, rite</a>	<a href="#">pear, pair</a>	<a href="#">you, you're</a>	<a href="#">wine, whine</a>
<a href="#">hire, higher</a>	<a href="#">peace, piece</a>	<a href="#">knight, night</a>	<a href="#">great, grate</a>	<a href="#">mite, might</a>
<a href="#">through, threw</a>	<a href="#">blue, blew</a>	<a href="#">knew, new</a>	<a href="#">need, kneed</a>	<a href="#">bred, breed-</a>
<a href="#">of, off</a>	<a href="#">which, witch</a>	<a href="#">licence, license</a>	<a href="#">Finding your own homophones!</a>	

# Homophone families

## The 'place' family

e l g h l l p m  
v r y p f j h w  
n k e n i d z r  
e r e h w n e w  
c t g x t k r u  
h p f e i k e j  
d g c w u u h g  
n a c u p u y e

here  
there  
where

Some homophones share similar spelling patterns

v m b e s g r l j  
h y n h r l c s a  
t c a d v a n l i  
u r j f s z f z v  
e j l m b v y m t  
y g u h d m f c u  
q q h a r j u r n  
e r a b r o k m s  
d e x j j z d x l

bare  
fare  
share

Some homophones share the same base spelling as they are part of the same 'family'

# to, too, two



**to**  
Means to go somewhere  
or to do something  
(to do with an action or a place - shows movement)

- *I am going to cook.*
- *I am going to the park.*

**too**  
Means also or as well

- *Are you coming too?*

Can also mean too much of something

- *She felt sick because she ate too much pudding.*

**two**  
The number 2.



**Fill in the space with either to, too or two.**

1. Jade is  today.
2. Becky is coming  my house for tea.
3. He was  tired  cook.
4. Brian was  lazy  get a job.
5. Are you coming out  ?
6. It is  hot in this room to study.
7. We are going  the leisure centre.
8. Do you want  come  ?





# where, wear



## where

**Where**, like the words **here** and **there**, is to do with place.

- **Where are you?**
- **I am still living in the town where I was born.**
- **Do you remember where we met?**
- **I will show you where it is.**



## wear

Is to do with clothing.

- **I don't know what to wear to the party.**
- **If it rains I will need to wear a coat.**



Is also to do with something becoming less

- **The fabric of her jacket is starting to wear thin.**
- **The painkiller is starting to wear off (it is losing its effect)**
- **The cliff is starting to wear away because of the strong waves.**



## Fill in the space with either where or wear.

would you like to meet?

did you put the biscuits?



did John go?

I am not sure what to .

I think you should  a coat.

The wall is starting to  away.

I think we should meet at the café  we had those tasty cakes.



# we're were

## We're

The apostrophe ( ' ) is used to show the missing letter 'a'. This word is the short way of saying 'we are'.

- ***We're going to the cinema.***
- ***I think we're on holiday next week.***

## Were

This word shows that something was done in the past.

- ***We were going to go out, but we didn't bother in the end.***
- ***You were really good in the play!***
- ***We were thinking of going for a burger.***
- ***They were really lively yesterday.***

## Fill in the space with either we're or were.

1. I thought that you  really kind to help Jane with her work.
2. If  too tired then we won't make it to the party. 
3. They  hoping to work in Spain this summer.
4.  really pleased that you have come to visit!

# there, their, they're

## there

Is to do with place and also shows something exists

- ***There are six people in this car.***
- ***There she is!***
- ***I put it over there - on top of the cupboard.***
- ***She lived there all her life.***

## their

Shows that things belong to other people

- ***Their dog is really cute.***



## they're

The apostrophe (') shows the missing 'a' – this is the short form of 'they are'

Write either there, their or they're in the boxes

1. We are hoping to go  next summer.
2.  a really nice couple.
3. I think I left it over .
4. Do you think  going to come to visit soon?
5. I do like  children, as they are really polite.
6. Mel thinks that  quite rude.
7.  are four cakes left over.





# hear, here



## hear

To do with sound.



- ***Can you hear me?***
- ***Do you hear that music coming from next door?***
- ***Did you hear the thunder last night?***
- ***I can hear next door's dog barking.***

## here

Is to do with place.

- ***Did you find it easy to get here?***
- ***How long did it take you to get here today?***
- ***You left your coat here.***
- ***I put the flowers over here, on the table.***

Fill in the space with either to, too or two.

I woke up early and could  the birds singing.

Did you  that Sandra had a baby boy?

I thought I left my cars keys  in this pot.



It is always really warm in .

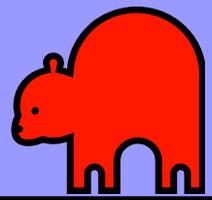
is the money that I borrowed from you.

This spot over  looks like a nice place to put up the tent.





# bare, bear



## bare

As an adjective means not covered, not clothed or basic.

- ***Apart from an old set of drawers, the room was bare.***
- ***She kicked off her shoes and ran through the park in bare feet.***

## bear

As a noun is a large furry mammal.  
As a verb can mean to carry, to support, to turn or to tolerate.



- ***How can you bear to live with her after what she did?***
- ***After this road junction bear left.***
- ***How are you bearing up? (How are you coping?)***

Fill in the space with either bare or bear.

Jane was wore a jacket with her dress as it was too cold to go out with  arms.

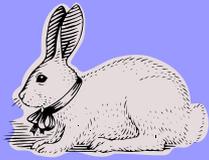
Steve could not  his toothache and so he went to the dentist and had his tooth filled.



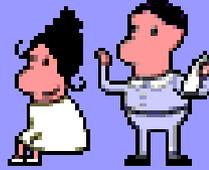
Alice took her little  to bed every night.

Asif found the amount of work he had to do hard to .

Jean was hungry but the cupboards were .



hare, hair



Hare: an animal like a rabbit but larger

Hair: grows on the surface of your skin / on your head

flee, flea

Flee: to run away / to escape



Flea: a small insect that jumps and bites people or animals



tyre, tire

Tyre: thick rubber ring – covers the edge of a wheel



Tire: to become tired

bee or be?

bee



be

As in the verb 'to be'.

- *He wants to be an actor.*
- *She wants to be a mother.*
- *I like to be at home with my children.*

Write some sentences of your own using the word 'be' correctly.

# sauce, source

**sauce:**

a liquid that food is served with or is cooked in

e.g.

- I like tomato sauce with chips!



**source:**

the place where something starts from

e.g.

- it is a rich source of gas
- let's find the source of the problem
- this spring is the source of the river





# site, sight



## Site:

- a place where something was, is or is to be.

e.g.

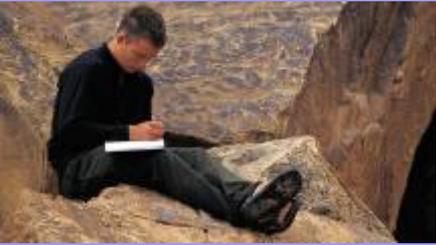
- They found the perfect site to pitch their tent.
- Historians believe that this was the site of the famous battle.

## Sight:

- to see something.

e.g.

- It was a beautiful sight.
- You look a sight! (to look ridiculous or funny)
- It was a sight she would never forget.



read, reed



### Read:



- to look at a thing and to understand it
- to say written words out loud



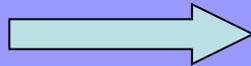
### Reed:

- tall grass that grows nearby or in water
- part of the mouthpiece of some wind instruments





# write, right, rite



## Write

To write is to form letters and words /  
to write to someone / to write  
Something.

- ***I am going to write a letter.***
- ***I would love to write a novel.***

## Right

To do with direction. The opposite of  
left.

- ***Turn right after the traffic lights.***

To be correct.

- ***Nearly all of my answers were right!***

## Rite

A religious ceremony / a ceremony

Add the correct word to complete  
these sentences

1. He likes to  poetry.
2. You need to take the first  after those big houses.
3. She always thinks that she is .
4. He is usually .
5. You need to  to the bank to ask about those charges.



pear

pair



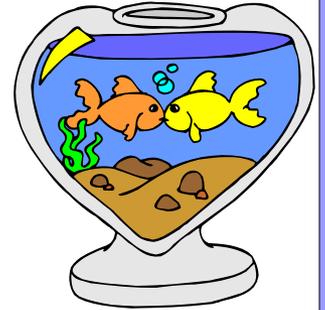
### Pear:

- the pear was very juicy.



### Pair:

- two of something / two of a kind



- something made of two parts (a pair of shoes)

your  
you're

**your**

Shows that something belongs to the person you are speaking to

e.g.

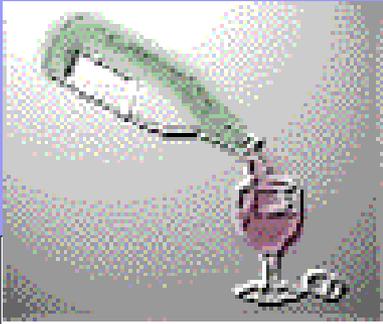
can I borrow your red handbag?



**you're** *you are*  
(short for you are)

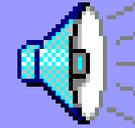
This word is called a contraction – it is a ‘short form’ that uses an apostrophe to show the missing letter ‘a’.

,



wine

whine



Wine:

- alcohol - a drink that is usually made with grapes.

Whine:

- a complaining voice
- the sound a dog or another animal makes.





hire  
higher



Use the dictionary to look up the meaning of the word hire. Write the meaning in the box below.

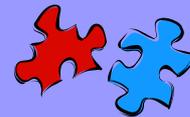
Use the dictionary to look up the meaning of the word higher. Write the meaning in the box below.

Put these words into your own sentences showing their correct meaning.



peace

piece



Peace: quiet, calm e.g. a place that is quiet is peaceful.

Piece: a part of something, a bit of a thing.

In the boxes write a sentence that shows the correct meaning of the word.



# knight, night



## Knight:

- an historical man trained to fight
- a man honoured by the Queen / King that gives him the title 'Sir-'
- the chess piece shaped like a horse.

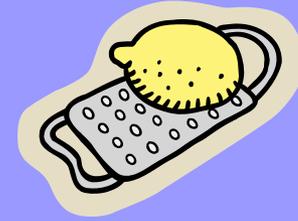


## Night:



- the time between the sun going down and the sun rising again in the morning.

# great, grate



## Great:

- someone or something very large
- someone or something amazing / someone very talented
- something enjoyable.



## Grate:

- to cut into fine shreds
- to make a horrible scratching sound
- metal bars around a fireplace.



# mite, might



## **Mite:**

- a tiny, spider-like creature.

## **Might:**

- a possibility  
e.g. I might come out tonight.
- power / strength  
e.g. she pulled at the rope with all her might.

# through, threw

## Threw:

- the past tense of 'to throw'
- e.g. he threw the ball.



## Through:

- to start at one end and come out at the other
- e.g. he drilled through the wall.

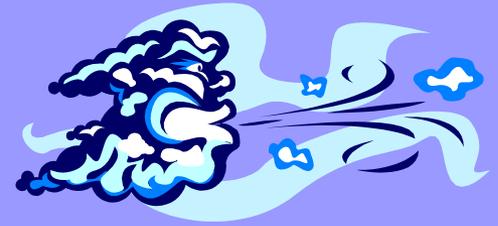


- because of something

e.g. he got news of the job through a friend.



blue, blew



### Blue:

- the colour blue which is the colour of the sky
- If someone is feeling sad then they could be said to be 'feeling blue'.

### Blew:

- the past tense of 'blow'

e.g. a strong wind blew his hat off of his head.

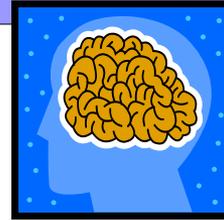


knew, new



**Knew:**

- past tense of 'to know'



e.g. she knew all about the history of Ireland because she had read about it.

**New:**

- just discovered
- just made
- just bought.





# need, knead



## Need:

- to not have something that is useful or that you have to have  
e.g. they need warm clothes for the winter.

## Knead:

- to use your hands to press and shape clay or dough to make it ready to use.



# bred, bread



## **Bred:**

- animals that have mated and produced young  
e.g. the award winning breeder only **bred**  
the finest pedigree dogs, they were purebred  
spaniels.

## **Bread:**

- a dough made with flour and baked in the oven  
to produce bread.

# of off



## Of:

- *belonging to* e.g. are you a friend of his?
- *made from* e.g. a house of clay
- *about* e.g. I hear stories of your trip to Paris
- *within* e.g. a box of tissues 
- *cause* e.g. he died of a heart attack.

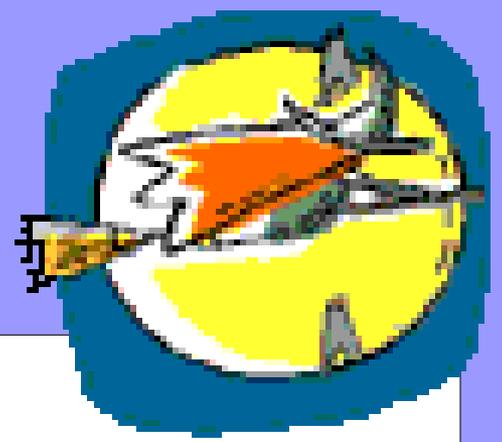
## Off:

- not working e.g. to switch off 
- to exit from, to get off of e.g. we got off the bus too early.





# which    witch



**Which:**

- a questioning word about choosing one thing over another  
e.g. Which cake shall I have?

**Witch:**

- a girl or woman who is meant to have magical powers.



licence      license



## **Licence**

With a c is a **noun**... it is the official document that lets you do something e.g. drive a car.

## **License**

To give someone permission to do something (a **verb**) e.g. license a restaurant to serve alcoholic drinks.

# Can you think of more?

Write them in the box below, check their different meanings in a dictionary and then create sentences to show their correct use!