

# Le passé composé (the past tense)

Forming the past tense in French is easy! There are two bits to it:

the auxiliary verb + the past participle = the past tense

## 1. Auxiliary verb:

This is the present tense of 'avoir' - which you know already!

j'ai	nous avons
tu as	vous avez
il/elle a	ils/elles ont

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## 2. Past participle:

There is a formula to form the past participle:

- er verbs
Formula: remove '-er' and add 'é'
Example: jouer → joué to play → played

- ir verbs
Formula: remove '-ir' and add 'i'
Example: choisir → choisi to choose → chose

- re verbs
Formula: remove '-re' and add 'u'
Example: attendre → attendu to wait → waited

### Examples:

I played	/	I have played	=	j'ai joué
He chose	/	He has chosen	=	il a choisi
We waited	/	We have waited	=	nous avons attendu