**Gerunds and Infinitives**

Gerunds and infinitives are sometimes referred to as [**verb**](https://www.gingersoftware.com/content/grammar-rules/verbs/action-verbs/) complements. They may function as subjects or objects in a sentence.

[**gerund**](https://www.gingersoftware.com/content/grammar-rules/nouns/gerunds/) is a verb in its ing (present participle) form that functions as a noun that names an activity rather than a person or thing. Any action verb can be made into a gerund.

### Spelling Tip

Verbing (Present Participle)

* Add ing to most verbs. Ex. play > playing, cry > crying, bark > bark**ing**
* For verbs that end in e, remove the e and add ing. Ex: slide > slid**ing**, ride > rid**ing**
* For verbs that end in ie, change the ie to y and add ing. Ex: die > dy**ing**, tie > ty**ing**
* For a verb whose **last** syllable is written with a consonant-vowel-consonant and is stressed, double the last letter before adding ing. Ex: beg > begg**ing**, begin > beginn**ing**. **However**: enter > enter**ing** (last syllable is not stressed)

## Gerund Examples

Gerunds can appear at the beginning of a sentence when used as a subject:

1. **Jogging** is a hobby of mine.

Gerunds can act as an object following the verb:

1. Daniel quit **smoking** a year ago.

Gerunds can serve as an object after a preposition:

1. I look forward to **helping** you paint the house.

Note: The same spelling rules that apply to the progressive tenses also apply to gerunds.

Some verbs and verb phrases are directly followed a gerund:

1. Paul avoids **using** chemicals on the vegetables he grows.