

When to double a consonant when adding ed, er, or ing

The rule

ONE-SYLLABLE WORD		
We double the final letter of a one-syllable verb when it ends in:		
consonant + vowel + consonant	stop, rob, sit	stopping , stopped , robbing , robbed , robber , sitting
MULTIPLE-SYLLABLE WORD		
We double the final letter when a word has more than one syllable, and when the final syllable is stressed in speech.	beGIN, preFER	begin ning , begin ner , preferr ing , prefer red
If the final syllable is not stressed, we do not double the final letter.	LIS t en, HAP p en	list en ing, list en ed, happ e ning, happ e ned

The exception

Don't double w, x, or y. (*Don't double W*) ~~claww~~ed clawed, ~~fixx~~ing fixing, ~~toyy~~ing toying.