

S Pronunciation

These rules apply to all words that end in S. Typically, this is for regular nouns in their plural form or verbs in the third person singular of the present simple tense. In order to identify the pronunciation of the final S, you must look at the penultimate sound in the word.

The three ways to pronounce an S ending are /ɪz/, /s/ and /z/.

/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
If the penultimate sound is sibilant	If the penultimate sound is unvoiced	If the penultimate sound is voiced
/z/ buzzes /dʒ/ judges /tʃ/ churches /s/ gases /j/ wishes /ʒ/ There are no example words for this sound	/p/ claps /t/ hits /k/ trucks /f/ puffs /θ/ froths /h/ There are no examples as an H would be silent as a final letter	/b/ pubs /d/ reads /g/ hugs /n/ wins /m/ arms /j/ plays /ŋ/ sings /r/ pours /v/ loaves /w/ windows /l/ calls /ð/ clothes

EXAMPLES

The bee buzzes.
The penultimate sound in buzzes is /z/. After Z, the S is pronounced /ɪz/.