**The Doubling Rule**

**The Rule:**

“No” trumps “yes” every time. That means if criteria for “yes” are met but there is even one criteria that is “no”, then you do not double.

**Do not double if:**

* The suffix begins with a consonant (dimness)
* The base word ends with two consonants (renter, lambing, jumped)
* If the base word has two vowels in the middle (swooped, feeling, looter)

**Do double if:**

* The suffix begins with a vowel (patting, bigger, stepped)
* The word has only one syllable (clipping, fanned, batter)
* The word ends in only on consonant preceded by one vowel (nutty, dotted, starred)

**Words we double:**

bigger, biggest clipped, clipping

dotted, dotting dragged, dragging

fatter, fattest stepping, stepped

starred, starring flatter, flattest

hotter, hottest sinned, sinning

**Words we do not double:**

**If the suffix begins with a consonant:**

Flatness, flatly hotly, hotness

Sinful

**If the base word ends in 2 consonants:**

faster, fastestrenter, renting

brushing, brushed farmer, farmed, farming

perched, perching charming, charmed, charmer

sorter, sorting, sorted

**If the base word has 2 vowels:**

swooped, swooping boiling, boiled, boiler

aimer, aiming, aimed cheated, cheating, cheater

needed, needing, needy toaster, toasted, toasting

cloudy, clouded draining, drained

steamy, steamer spoiler, spoiled, spoiling

roofer, roofing, roofed groaner, groaning, groaned

counter, counting

**Common Suffixes:**

ing ly ness ish less er

y ful ive en ment est

fully ed