

# Structure de la langue

## Present Tense of Regular Verbs Ending in **-ir**

Many French verb infinitives end in **-ir**. Most of these verbs are regular, such as **finir** (to finish) and **choisir** (to choose). Their forms follow a predictable pattern. To form the present tense of a regular **-ir** verb, drop the **-ir** ending from the infinitive to find the verb stem. Then add the appropriate ending.



Add the ending (**-is, -is, -it, -issons, -issez, -issent**) to the stem of the verb, depending on the corresponding subject pronoun.

finir			
je	finis	nous	finissons
tu	finis	vous	finissez
il/elle/on	finit	ils/elles	finissent

Je **finis** le gâteau pour sa fête d'anniversaire.

*I am finishing the cake for her birthday party.*

En général, ma tante **choisit** les meilleurs cadeaux.

*My aunt generally chooses the best presents.*

**Note:** The verb **offrir** (to give or offer) is irregular. It will be presented later in this lesson.

Some Common <b>-ir</b> Verbs	
<b>grandir</b>	to grow
<b>grossir</b>	to gain weight
<b>maigrir</b>	to lose weight
<b>réfléchir (à)</b>	to think over, consider
<b>réussir (à)</b>	to succeed, to pass (a test)
<b>rougir</b>	to blush

### Usage Tip

Practice replacing the infinitive marker **-ir** with **-issons, -issez, and -issent** on the following verbs:

**finir** (fin-ir); **désobéir** (désobé-ir);  
**réussir** (réuss-ir); **établir** (établ-ir);  
**grandir** (grand-ir); **maigrir** (maigr-ir);  
**grossir** (gross-ir); **rougir** (roug-ir)

### Comparaisons

Are the verbs *to finish* and *to choose* also regular in English?

I finish, you finish, she finishes, we finish, they finish

I choose, you choose, he chooses, we choose, they choose