



Rule 3: 'ch' or 'tch'



Teacher information

- This teaching resource is organised into four sections: **1)** Explanation of the rule **2)** Examples of key words that fit the rule **3)** Opportunities to practise **4)** Further examples of commonly used words following the rule & some notable exceptions.
- These slides are intended as a starting point for teaching this rule. The lists of words given at the end might be used for card sorting exercises or a variety of spelling games.
- The clue “‘**ch**’ chases lonely vowels” is to remind pupils that the ‘**ch**’ sound is spelt ‘**tch**’ after one vowel.



1) Rule 3: Explanation

The 'ch' sound at the end of a word is usually spelt 'tch' if it is after a single vowel and 'ch' if it is after a consonant or two vowels.

'ch' chases lonely vowels – the 't' protects them!

match stretch pitch catch
each speech branch march

NOTE: Some high frequency words like 'which' and 'much' do not follow this rule.



2) Rule 3: Examples

Which words below have the 'ch' sound spelt with 'tch'? Why is this?

Which words below are spelt with 'ch'? Why is this?

pitch

patch

crunch

lunch

teach

butcher

beach

fetch

perch

THINK: 'which' and 'witch' – what does each mean?

How can you remember?



3) Rule 3: Practice

Decide how to spell the 'ch' sound in these words.

Starter

ca__

pin__

fe__

poo__

ma__

Challenge 1

swi__

tea__

bun__

cru__

bea__

Challenge 2

spee__

stre__

quen__

sear__

ki__en

THINK: How many other words ending in the 'ch' sound can you think of?



4) Rule 3: Further examples

Words ending in 'tch'

watch	hatch
match	batch
catch	ditch
switch	snatch
stretch	witch
pitch	twitch
patch	latch
fetch	itch
stitch	notch
scratch	blotch
sketch	crutch
clutch	hatch

Words ending in 'ch'

each	inch
church	pinch
reach	beach
march	coach
touch	bunch
speech	torch
search	perch
branch	bench
teach	crunch
pooch	beech
lunch	hunch
punch	quench

Exceptions

Some high frequency words including:

which
such
much
rich