

## Spelling list: *ir* words

The /er/ sound is commonly found in words like *fern* , *earn* , *stir* and *blur* . It is important to recognise that this sound can be spelt in different ways and learn how to use each spelling pattern.

This list includes words that use the letter combination *ir* to spell the /er/ sound. *Ir* words can be adjectives like *dirty* , adverbs like *firmly* , nouns like *circle* , and verbs like *squirm* .

As there are four different ways of spelling the /er/ sound, you need to rely on your memory to know when to use which spelling pattern. Use the *Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check* activity and spelling games to learn the *ir* words in this list.

fir	A <b>fir</b> tree is evergreen.
sir	He wasn't sure whether or not to call his teacher <b>sir</b> or master.
stir	We need to <b>stir</b> the soup.
bird	The <b>bird</b> sat in a tree.
third	My brother is in <b>third</b> grade.
girl	The <b>girl</b> came home on the train.
swirl	As the tide came in, she felt the water <b>swirl</b> around her legs.
dirt	Mary got some <b>dirt</b> on her new dress.
shirt	I need to sew a button on my <b>shirt</b> .
thirst	Water is best for quenching your <b>thirst</b> .
first	I was gripped by the very <b>first</b> sentence of this book.
skirt	I tore my <b>skirt</b> on a nail.
squirt	Add a small <b>squirt</b> of lemon juice to the dish.
squirm	The horror film made me <b>squirm</b> .
birthday	What are you doing for your <b>birthday</b> ?
circle	The children sat in a <b>circle</b> .

circus I object to animals performing in a **circus** .

thirty She is **thirty** years old on her birthday.

thirteen Fourteen is the number after **thirteen** .