

## Variation and change: Verb regularization

The current edition of the *Duden Grammatik* lists the following verbs as having competing weak and strong preterit forms and / or past participles, along with many more that show other kinds of variation (often stem vowel changes in the present and varying subjunctive forms).

Take 3-5 of these verbs and check them in a variety of sources — dictionaries (bilingual and/or monolingual), grammars, online sources — to see whether they are listed as strong or weak or variable and what guidance they offer on usage. Then do web searches to see how often you find which variants. You can also use Ngram Viewer to track patterns in books over time.

backen  
dreschen  
dünnen  
fechten  
flechten  
fragen  
gären  
glimmen  
hauen  
heben  
klimmen  
küren

melken  
saugen  
schinden  
schwären  
sieden  
speisen  
stecken  
stieben  
triefen  
wägen  
weben