

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 **fir** tree is evergreen.

sir He wasn't sure whether or not to call his teacher **sir** or master.

stir We need to **stir** the soup.

bird The **bird** sat in a tree.

third My brother is in **third** grade.

girl The **girl** came home on the train.

swirl As the tide came in, she felt the water **swirl** around her legs.

dirt Mary got some **dirt** on her new dress.

shirt I need to sew a button on my **shirt** .

thirst Water is best for quenching your **thirst** .

first I was gripped by the very **first** sentence of this book.

skirt I tore my **skirt** on a nail.

squirt Add a small **squirt** of lemon juice to the dish.

squirm The horror film made me **squirm** .

birthday What are you doing for your **birthday** ?

circle The children sat in a **circle** .

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** .