

Pb-Help for Mental English
Print, cut + glue into Facts to
Learn.

i BEFORE e ?

The rule is easy to remember: i before e except after c
(but only when it rhymes with bee).

RHYMES WITH 'BEE'



thief

- The **ie** in these examples rhymes with 'bee'.
- There is no **C**, so the **i** comes before the **e**.

Other examples:
field, handkerchief.



chief



receive

- The **ei** in these examples rhymes with 'bee'.
- There is a **C**, so the **i** comes after the **e**.

Other examples:
receipt, perceive.



deceive

DOESN'T RHYME WITH 'BEE'



scientist

- The **ie** in these examples doesn't rhyme with 'bee'.
- There is a **C**, so the **i** comes before the **e**.

Other examples:
efficient, sufficient



ancient



eight

- The **ei** in these examples doesn't rhyme with 'bee'.
- There is no **C**, so the **i** comes after the **e**.

Other examples:
freight, height.



weight

Some exceptions to the rule are: weird, weir and seize.