

Word with 's' or 'c' spelling – e.g. practise or practice

There is a group of words which need to be spelled differently, according to the function of the word in the sentence:

- advise / advice
- license / licence
- practise / practice

Except for advise / advice, the other word pairs sound exactly the same. Check the table below to help decide which to use:

If the word is a verb ('doing word'), use the 's' spelling.	If the word is a noun ('naming word'), use the 'c' spelling.
The Health and Safety Officer can advise on preparing risk assessments.	Where such risks exist, they should seek advice and take active steps to minimise them.
The premises are licensed to sell alcohol.	Research involving animals may require Home Office licences for the institution, the investigator and the project.
The researcher practised the format in a pilot interview.	The challenge was to put theory into practice.