FRENCH TABLE

Present Tense

How does the present tense work in French?:
Spelling changes

-er verbs are thought to be rather regular. Although the endings are regular, with some verbs,
you'll need to add or alter an accent or even double a consonant for **pronunciation** purposes.
Usually, the stem is the **same** for *je, tu, il, elle, on, ils,* and *elles,* and **differs** for *nous* and *vous*.

Below, you'll find all you need to know in order to write and pronounce *-er* verbs. for which a spelling change occurs.
To find more examples of verbs with spelling changes, check out our other downloadable content for this post,
"Table for Verbs with Spelling Changes and Irregularities in the Present Tense in French."

Altering a consonant			
c ➜ *ç* Only for *nous*	*commencer* [to start]	*je commence* *tu commences* *il, elle, on commence* *vous commencez* *ils, elles commencent*	*nous commençons* /koma(n)so(n)/ ➜ if you wrote ~~commencons~~, you'd read /koma(n)ko(n)/
g ➜ *ge* Only for *nous*	*manger* [to eat]	*je mange* *tu manges* *il, elle, on mange* *vous mangez* *ils, elles mangent*	*nous mangeons* /ma(n)jo(n)/ ➜ if you wrote ~~mangons~~, you'd pronounce /ma(n)go(n)/
-y ➜ *i* For *je, tu, il, elle,* *on, ils, elles* only	*nettoyer* [to clean]	*je nettoie* *tu nettoies* *il, elle, on nettoie* *ils, elles nettoient* NB: for *-ayer* verbs, you can either use this rule or conjugate verbs with *y* with all the pronouns *essayer* [to try]: *j'essaie* OR *j'essaye*	*nous nettoyons* *vous nettoyez*

How does the present tense work in French?:
Spelling changes

Adding or changing an accent for verbs ending in -e + consonant + -er			
e → è and é → è for *je, tu, il, elle, on, ils, elles* only.			
Here is a non-exhaustive list:			
-eter → ète	*acheter* [to buy]	*j'achète* *tu achètes* *il, elle, on achète* *ils, elles achètent*	nous achetons vous achetez
-eler → èle	*congeler* [to freeze]	*je congèle* *tu congèles* *il, elle, on congèle* *ils, elles congèlent*	*nous congelons* *vous congelez*
-ever → ève	*se lever* [to get up]	*je me lève* *tu te lèves* *il, elle, on se lève* *ils, elles se lèvent*	*nous nous levons* *vous vous levez*
-érer → ère	*espérer* [to hope]	*j'espère* *tu espères* *il, elle, on espère* *ils, elles espèrent*	*nous espérons* *vous espérez*

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Adding a consonant The change occurs for *je, tu, il, elle, on, ils, elles* only			
-eter ➜ ette	*jeter* [to throw]	*je j*ette *tu j*ettes *il, elle, on j*ette *ils, elles j*ettent	nous j*e*tons vous j*e*tez
-eler ➜ elle	*appeler* [to call]	*j'app*elle *tu app*elles *il, elle, on app*elle *ils, elles app*ellent	*nous app*elons *vous app*elez

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