

Aspect and Imperatives

Perfective verbs are typically used with positive imperatives (stress on result):

Zrób to!	Do it!
Przeczytaj to!	Read it!
Napisz ten list!	Write the letter!
Zjedz obiad!	Eat dinner!
Przepróść!	Apologize to her! (from przeprosić)

Imperfective verbs are typically used with negative imperatives:

Nie rób tego!	Don't do it!
Nie czytaj tego!	Don't read it!
Nie pisz tego listu!	Don't write this letter!
Nie jedz tego!	Don't eat it/this!
Nie przepraszaj jej!	Don't apologize to her! (from przeproszać)

With verbs of motion the same pattern holds:

Wyjdź!	Leave, get out! (from wyjść)
Nie wychodź!	Don't leave, don't go out! (from wychodzić)
Przyjdź do mnie!	Come to me!
Nie przychodź tu więcej!	Don't come here anymore!
Wejdź!	Come in!
Nie wchodź!	Don't come in!

With *iść*, *chodzić* and *pójść* there are two quirks:

1) the positive imperative of *chodzić* means "come!"
Chodź tu! Come here! (same as Przyjdź tu!)
(but the negated imperative of *chodzić* means "don't go!", **not** "don't come")

2) the imperfective verb *iść* can be used in positive commands:
Idź tam! Go there!

Otherwise like the general pattern (only imperfectives in negative commands):

Idź tam!	Go there!
Chodź tu!	Come here!
Pójdź tam!	Go there!

(there are very subtle differences between *idź* and *pójdź*, *idź* is much more common)

Nie idź tam!	Don't go there!
Nie chodź tam!	Don't go there!

(there are very subtle differences between *nie idź* and *nie chodź*)