Omitting "If"

We can omit "if" in some conditionals. And when we do it, the structure of the sentence gets different, and the meaning of the omitted "if" remains in the sentence.
When using the conditional with the verbs "**were**", "**had**" (past perfect auxiliary verb), and "**should**", the word "**if**" may be omitted.

Example: If Mary had known that she would get into trouble, she would have spoken to Prof. Donahue.

With a sentence as the one above, here are the steps to follow:

1. The word "if" is deleted.
2. The subject (Mary) is placed between had and known.
3. If the sentence is negative, the negation goes after the subject.

Example: Had Mary known that she would get into trouble, she would have spoken to Prof. Donahue.

If the boys hadn't spoken to their dad, they would have been punished.
Had the boys not spoken to their dad, they would have been punished.

If I were you, I wouldn't do that.
Were I you, I wouldn't do that.

If I had known, I would have told you.
Had I known, I would have told you

If anyone should call, please take a message.
Should anyone call, please take a message.

When the **second conditional** has different verbs, we can omit "if" as well, but in a different way:

If I **knew** how to speak French, I would work in France.
Were I **to know** how to speak French, I would work in France.

We add "were" in the beginning of the sentence, then we place the subject, and after that we use the verb that was in the past tense, but this time it will be in the infinitive form. The rest of the sentence remains the same.