

General Roots and Prefixes

| Root or Prefix | Meaning | Examples |
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| a, an | not, without | atheist, anarchy, anonymous apathy, aphasia, anemia, atypical, anesthesia |
| ab | away, down, from, off | absent, abduction, aberrant, abstemious, abnormal, abstract, absorb |
| acro | high, tip, top | acrobat, acrophobia, acronym, acromegaly, acropolis |
| act | do, move | action, react, transaction, proactive, activity, activation, deactivate |
| ad | to, toward | admit, addition, advertisement, adherent, admonish, address, adhesive, adept, adjust |
| alt | high | altitude, altimeter, alto, contralto, altocumulus, exalt |
| ambul | to walk | ambulatory, amble, ambulance, somnambulist, perambulate, preamble |
| anima | soul, life | animation, inanimate, animal, anime, equanimity, animism, animus |
| ante | before | anteroom, antebellum, antedate antecedent, antediluvian |
| anti, ant | against, opposite | antisocial, antiseptic, antithesis, antibody, antichrist, antinomies, antifreeze, antipathy, antigen, antibiotic, antidote, antifungal, antidepressant |
| arm | weapon | army, armament, disarm, rearm, armistice, armor, armory, arms |
| audi | to hear | audience, auditory, audible, auditorium, audiovisual, audition, audiobook |
| auto | self | automobile, automatic, autograph, autonomous, autoimmune, autopilot, autobiography |
| be | thoroughly | bedecked, besmirch, besprinkled, begrudge, begrime, belie, bemoan |
| bell | war | belligerent, antebellum, bellicose, rebel |
| bene | good, well | benefactor, beneficial, benevolent, benediction, beneficiary, benefit |
| bi | two | bicycle, bifocals, biceps, billion, binary, bivalve, bimonthly, bigamy, bimetal, biathlete, bicarbonate |
| bio | life, living | biology, biography, biodiversity, bioavailability, bioflavonoid, biofuel, biohazard, biomass, biorhythm |
| cede, ceed, cess | to go, to yield | succeed, proceed, precede, recede, secession, exceed, succession, excess |
| chron | time | chronology, chronic, chronicle, chronometer, anachronism |
| cide, cis | to kill, to cut | fratricide, suicide, incision, excision, circumcision, precise, concise, precision, homicide, genocide, regicide |
| circum | around | circumnavigate, circumflex, circumstance, circumcision, circumference, circumorbital, circumlocution, circumvent |

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|------------------|--------------------------|---|
| | | circumscribe, circulatory |
| clud, clus claus | to close | include, exclude, clause, claustrophobia, enclose, exclusive, reclusive, conclude, preclude |
| con, com | with, together | convene, compress, contemporary, converge, compact, confluence, concatenate, conjoin, combine, convert, compatible, consequence, contract |
| contra, counter | against, opposite | contradict, counteract, contravene, contrary, counterspy, contrapuntal, contraband, contraception, contrast, controversy, counterfeit, counterclaim, counterargument, counterclaim, counterpoint, counterrevolution |
| cred | to believe | credo, credible, credence, credit, credential, credulity, incredulous, creed, incredible |
| commun | to share | commune, community, communism, communicable, communication, commonality, incommunicado |
| cycl | circle, wheel | bicycle, cyclical, cycle, encyclical, motorcycle, tricycle, cyclone |
| de | from, down, away | detach, deploy, derange, deodorize, devoid, deflate, degenerate, deice, descend, derail, depress, depart, decompose, destruction |
| dei, div | God, god | divinity, divine, deity, divination, deify, deism |
| demo | people | democracy, demagogue, epidemic, demographic |
| dia | through, across, between | diameter, diagonal, dialogue, dialect, dialectic, diagnosis, diachronic, diagram, diaphragm, dialysis, diarrhea |
| dict | speak | predict, verdict, malediction, dictionary, dictate, dictum, diction, indict, contradict |
| dis, dys, dif | away, not, negative | dismiss, differ, disallow, disperse, dissuade, disconnect, dysfunction, disproportion, disrespect, distemper, distaste, disarray, dyslexia |
| duc, duct | to lead, pull | produce, abduct, product, transducer, viaduct, aqueduct, induct, deduct, reduce, induce |
| dyn, dyna | power | dynamic, dynamometer, heterodyne, dynamite, dynamo, dynasty |
| ecto | outside, external | ectomorph, ectoderm, ectoplasm, ectopic, ectothermal |
| endo | inside, within | endotoxin, endoscope, endogenous |
| equi | equal | equidistant, equilateral, equilibrium, equinox, equitable, equation, equator |
| e, ex | out, away, from | emit, expulsion, exhale, exit, express, exclusive, enervate, exceed, explosion |
| exter, extra | outside of | external, extrinsic, exterior, extraordinary, extrabiblical, extracurricular, extrapolate, extraneous, exterminator, extract, extradite, extraterrestrial, extrasensory, extravagant, extreme |
| flu, flux | flow | effluence, influence, effluvium, fluctuate, confluence, reflux, influx |
| flect, flex | to bend | flexible, reflection, deflect, circumflex, inflection, reflex |

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|---------------------|---------------------|--|
| graph, gram | to write | polygraph, grammar, biography, graphite, telegram, autograph, lithograph, historiography, graphic, electrocardiogram, monogram |
| hetero | other | heterodox, heterogeneous, heterosexual, heterodyne |
| homo | same | homogenized, homosexual, homonym, homophone |
| hyper | over, above | hyperactive, hypertensive, hyperbolic, hypersensitive, hyperventilate, hyperkinetic, hyperlink, hypertext, hypersonic, hypertrophy |
| hypo | below, less than | hypotension, hypodermic, hypoglycemia, hypoallergenic, hypothermia, hypothesis |
| in, im | not | inviolate, innocuous, intractable, innocent, impregnable, impossible |
| infra | beneath | infrared, infrastructure, infrasonic |
| inter, intro | between | international, intercept, intermission, interoffice, internal, intermittent, introvert, introduce |
| intra | within, into | intranet, intracranial, intravenous, intramural, intramuscular, intraocular |
| jac, ject | to throw | reject, eject, project, trajectory, interject, dejected, inject, ejaculate |
| log, logo, loc. loq | word, speech, speak | monologue, dialogue, locution, colloquial, elocution, soliloquy, ventriloquist, apology, doxology, epilogue, logic, eulogy, loquacious |
| mal | bad, badly | malformation, maladjusted, dismal, malady, malcontent, malfeasance, maleficent, malevolent, malice, malaria, malfunction, malignant |
| mega | great, million | megaphone, megalomaniac, megabyte, megalopolis |
| meso | middle | mesomorph, mesoamerica, mesosphere |
| meta | beyond, change | metaphor, metamorphosis, metabolism, metahistorical, metainformation, metacognitive |
| meter | measure | perimeter, micrometer, ammeter, multimeter, altimeter, geometry, kilometer |
| micro | small | microscope, microprocessor, microfiche, micrometer, micrograph |
| mis | bad, badly | misinform, misinterpret, mispronounce, misnomer, mistake, misogynist, mistrial, misadventure, misanthrope, misread |
| mit, miss | to send | transmit, permit, missile, missionary, remit, admit, missive, mission |
| morph | shape | polymorphic, morpheme, amorphous, metamorphosis, morphology, morphing |
| multi | many | multitude, multipartite, multiply, multipurpose, multicolored, multimedia, multinational |
| neo | new | neologism, neonate, neoclassic, neophyte |
| non | not | nonferrous, nonabrasive, nondescript, nonfat, nonfiction, nonprofit, nonsense, nonentity |

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|---------------|---------------------------------|--|
| omni | all | omnipotent, omnivorous, omniscient, omnibus, omnirange, omnipresent |
| pan | all, whole, general, completely | pantheism, pandemic, panacea, panoply, pan-American, panchromatic, pandemonium, panorama |
| para | beside | paraprofessional, paramedic, paraphrase, parachute, paralegal, parallel, comparison |
| per | through, intensive | permit, perspire, perforate, persuade, perceive, perfect, permit, perform |
| peri | around | periscope, perimeter, perigee, periodontal |
| phon | sound | telephone, phonics, phonograph, phonetic, homophone, microphone |
| phot | light | photograph, photosynthesis, photon |
| poly | many | polytheist, polygon, polygamy, polymorphous |
| port | to carry | porter, portable, report, transportation, deport, import, export |
| re | back, again | report, realign, retract, revise, regain, reflect, rename, restate, recombine, recalculate, redo |
| retro | backwards | retrorocket, retrospect, retrogression, retroactive |
| sanct | holy | sanctify, sanctuary, sanction, sanctimonious, sacrosanct |
| scrib, script | to write | inscription, prescribe, proscribe, manuscript, conscript, scribble, scribe |
| sect, sec | cut | intersect, transect, dissect, secant, section |
| semi | half | semifinal, semiconscious, semiannual, semimonthly, semicircle |
| spect | to look | inspect, spectator, circumspect, retrospect, prospect, spectacle |
| sub | under, below | submerge, submarine, substandard, subnormal, subvert, subdivision, submersible, submit |
| super, supra | above | superior, suprarenal, superscript, supernatural, supercede, superficial, superhero, superimpose |
| syn | together | synthesis, synchronous, syndicate, synergy, snyopsis, syncretism |
| tele | distance, from afar | television, telephone, telegraph, telemetry, telepathy |
| theo. the | God | theology, theist, polytheist, pantheism, atheist, monotheist, theophany |
| therm, thermo | heat | thermal, thermometer, thermocouple, thermodynamic, thermoelectric |
| tract | to drag, draw | attract, tractor, traction, extract, retract, protract, detract, subtract, contract, intractable |
| trans | across | transoceanic, transmit, transport, transducer, transit, intransitive |
| un | not | uncooked, unharmed, unintended, unhappy, unenlightened, |

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| | | unremarkable |
| veh, vect, vey | to carry | vector, vehicle, convection, vehement, convey, conveyance, conveyor |
| vert, vers | to turn | convert, revert, advertise, versatile, vertigo, invert, reversion, extravert, introvert |
| ven, vent | to come | convention, prevent, intervention, convent, Advent, invent, inventory |
| verm | worm | vermin, vermicelli, vermiculite, vermicide, vermiform, vermilion |
| vita | life | vital, vitality, vitamins, revitalize |
| vol | to will | benevolent, volition, voluntary, malevolent |
| vita | life | vital, vitality, vitamins, revitalize |

Number Prefixes

| Prefix | Meaning | Examples |
|---------------|--------------------------|--|
| mono, uni | one | monopoly, monotype, monologue, mononucleosis, monorail, monotheist, unilateral, universal, unity, unanimous, uniform |
| bi, di | two | divide, diverge, diglycerides, bifurcate, biweekly, bivalve, biannual, billion |
| tri | three | triangle, trinity, trilateral, triumvirate, tribune, trilogy, tricycle, trillion |
| quat, quad | four | quadrangle, quadruplets, quaternary, quarter, quadrillion |
| quint, penta | five | quintet, quintuplets, pentagon, pentane, pentameter, quintillion |
| hex, ses, sex | six | hexagon, hexameter, sestet, sextuplets, sextillion |
| sept | seven | septet, septennial, septillion, September |
| oct | eight | octopus, octagon, octogenarian, octave, octillion, October |
| non | nine | nonagon, nonagenarian, nonillion |
| dec | ten | decimal, decade, decalogue, decimate, decillion, December |
| cent | hundred | centennial, century, centipede, centillion |
| mill, kilo | thousand (10^3) | millennium, kilobyte, kiloton |
| mega | million (10^6) | megabyte, megaton, megaflop, megawatt |
| giga | billion (10^9) | gigabyte, gigaflop, gigahertz, gigawatt |
| milli | thousandth (10^{-3}) | millisecond, milligram, millivolt, milliwatt, millimeter, millipede |
| micro | millionth (10^{-6}) | microgram, microvolt, microwave, microsecond |
| nano | billionth (10^{-9}) | nanosecond, nanobucks, nanofarad, nanometer, nanomachine, nanotube, nanotechnology, nanogram, nanoscale |

A Handful of Suffixes

| Suffix | Meaning | Examples |
|------------|--|---|
| able, ible | able to be, capable of being | pourable, drinkable, readable, washable, curable, visible, flexible, collectible |
| ance, ancy | state of, process of | performance, reliance, defiance, radiance, acceptance, ascendancy, discrepancy, infancy |
| ator | one who does [the verb] | terminator, culminator, agitator, instigator, generator, incubator, accelerator, invigorator, elevator |
| dom | condition, office, state | kingdom, freedom, wisdom, sheikdom, fiefdom, sheikdom |
| ee | one who receives | payee, mortgagee, employee, appointee, abductee, examinee, referee, refugee |
| er, or | one who does [the verb] | driver, hiker, reader, manager, polisher, speaker, counselor, author, creator, director, sculptor |
| ful | filled with | frightful, delightful, wonderful, cupful, wakeful, bashful, bountiful, beautiful, cheerful, colorful, dreadful, fateful |
| ify | to make into | purify, deify, simplify, clarify, petrify, reify, exemplify, pacify |
| ification | process of making into | purification, deification, simplification, clarification, petrification |
| ish | the nature of, resembling | Cornish, Irish, bookish, freakish, foolish, boorish, selfish, sluggish, priggish |
| ism | doctrine, system, characteristic quality | capitalism, heroism, optimism, skepticism, realism, patriotism, communism, idealism, conservatism |
| ist | one who performs; an adherent of an ism | tympanist, cellist, idealist, communist, realist, moralist, pharmacist, pragmatist |
| ize | to make into | rationalize, normalize, realize, capitalize, sterilize, dramatize, utilize, colorize |
| ization | the process of making into | rationalization, normalization, realization, capitalization, dramatization |
| less | without, lacking | loveless, fearless, worthless, nameless, baseless, bottomless, effortless, friendless, noiseless, harmless |