

WORD PARTS: MOST COMMONLY USED PREFIXES

PREFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLE
a (or ab) ab ad ante anti auto	without or not away, from to, forward before against self	amoral, abnormal abhor, absent advance, adhere anteroom, antecedent antifreeze, antimatter, antibiotic automatic, automobile
bi	two	bifocal, bicycle
circum cent com co (or con) cor contra counter	round, around 100 with together, with with against against	circle, circumference, circumvent century companion cooperate, connect, conjoin correlative contrary, contradict counteract
de dec di dia dis	down or showing a reversal ten apart through not	descend, degrade, deactivate decade divorce diameter, diaphragm disapprove, disagree
e eu ex equi extra	out of happy out of equal above	edict, eclipse, eject euphoria excavate, expel, export equilateral extraterrestrial
hemi hyper hypo	½ over below	hemisphere hyperactive hypodermic
il im in intra inter ir	not not in or not within between or among not	illegal, illegitimate impossible, immoderate incorrect, invisible, inspect intrastate interstate, interval, international irresponsible
kilo	1,000	kilometer

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PREFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLE
magni mal micro mid milli mis mono multi	large bad small middle 1,000 wrong one many	magnitude malfunction, malnutrition microscope, micrometer midday millipede mispronounce monologue, monopoly, monotone multicolored
neo non	new not	neophyte nonsense, nonprofit
ob	against	obstruct, obstinate
pan para per peri poly post pre pro pseudo	all similar through around many after before forward false	panacea, pandemonium paraprofessional pervade, permeate perimeter, periscope polygon, polyglot postgraduate, postdate preview, premarital progress pseudonym, pseudoscience
quad	four	quadruplet
re retro	again or back backward	review, return, redo, reject retroactive, retrospect
semi sub super syn (or sym)	half under over with or together	semicircle, semiannual submarine, subway superhuman, superior synchronize, symphony
tele trans tri	far across three	telegram, telepathy, telescope transportation, transcontinental triangle, triple
un uni	not one	unsuccessful, unnatural uniformity

WORD PARTS: MOST COMMONLY USED ROOTS

ROOT	MEANING	EXAMPLE
agri	field	agriculture
agro	field	agronomy
anthropo	human	anthropology
aqua	water	aqualung, aquarium
astro	star	astronomy
audio	hear	audience, audition
auto	self	automatic, autonomy, autobiography
avi	bird	aviation

bene	good, well	benefit, beneficiary
bibl	book	Bible
bio	life	biography, biology

chrom	color	monochromatic
chron	time	chronological, chronic
cide	kill	insecticide, suicide
cor	heart	core
cord	heart	cordial
corp	body	corporal, incorporate
cred	belief	credible, credit

dem	people	democracy
derm	skin	dermatology
dict	word or say	dictate
duc	lead	educate

ego	self	egocentric, egotist
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fact	make	manufacture, factory
fid	trust	infidelity
fin	end	final
flu	flow	fluctuate
frater	brother	fraternal, fraternity
fus	pour or blend	infuse, fuse

gen	birth	genesis
geo	earth	geography, geology
graph	writing or drawing	autograph, graphic, biography
greg	flock	congregation

homo	same, man	homonym, homophone
hydr	water	hydrant

ject	throw	reject
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WORD PARTS: MOST COMMONLY USED ROOTS

ROOT	MEANING	EXAMPLE
log	speech	dialogue
log (or logy)	knowledge, record, or study of	catalog, biology, zoology
luc	light	translucent, lucid
lus	light	luster, illustrate
lum	light	illuminate
man	hand	manipulate
meter	measure	thermometer
mis	send	dismissal
mit	send	transmit
mort	death or dying	immortal, mortuary, mortician
mut	change	mutation
nov	new	renovate
omni	all	omnibus, omnipotent
onym	word or name	synonym, pseudonym
pac	peace	pacific
path	feeling or suffering	sympathy, empathy
pater	father	paternal, paternity
ped	foot	pedestrian, centipede, pedal
philo	love	bibliophile, philosophy
phob	fear	phobia, claustrophobia
phone	sound	telephone, phonics
photo	light	photograph
port	carry	transport
pos	place	position, impose
pot	strength	impotent, potential
psych (or psycho)	mind	psychology, psychic, psychoanalysis
pyro	fire	pyromaniac
scrib	write	scribe, inscribe
script	write	scripture, subscription
soph	wise	philosopher, sophomore
solo	alone	solo, solitude
spec	look or see	spectator, inspect
temp	time	temporary
theo	god or gods	atheist, theology
tort	twist, turn	distortion
tract	draw, pull	extract
ven (or vent)	come	venture, convention
ver	true	verify
vert	turn	convertible, invert
vic	conquer	victory
vid	see	evident
vis	see	vision
viv	life	survive
voc	call, voice	vocal
vok	call, voice	evoke
zoo	animal	zoology, zoological

WORD PARTS: MOST COMMONLY USED SUFFIXES

SUFFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLE
-able -age -al -an -ance -ant (noun) -ant (adj.) -ar -ary -ate -ation	capable of being act, condition like, suitable for person who state of being person state of being relating to place where to make quality or condition	readable, manageable, perishable wastage, postage comical, theatrical musician, American circumstance, resemblance occupant, accountant defiant, vacant muscular, lunar library, dictionary create, formulate, generate, imagination, realization
-ee -en -ence -ent	person who is made of state, quality person who	nominee, employee golden, wooden permanence, excellence, reference student, superintendent
-fic -ful (adj.) -ful (noun) -fy	causing, producing full of, characterized by, having the qualities of, liable to quantity that fills or would fill to make	scientific, prolific prideful, peaceful, masterful, helpful roomful, cupful, handful simplify, glorify, rectify, justify
-hood	state, condition	childhood, neighborhood
-ible -ic -ice -id -ile -ion -ism -ist -ity -ive -ize	capable of being of, characteristic of condition, quality state, condition relating to state of being act, state, or doctrine person who quality, state, degree relating to or tends toward to make, become	legible, divisible, collectible angelic, symphonic justice, malice fluid, squalid servile, infantile condition, confusion, action, tension criticism, alcoholism, Buddhism chemist, moralist, dentist activity, humanity, theatricality massive, inventive, active, destructive Americanize, modernize, symbolize
-less	without	helpless, motionless
-ment	state of being	improvement, fulfillment
-or (orer) -ory -ous	person who place for full of	conductor, inventor, teacher directory, dormitory famous, pious
-some	tending to	lonesome, troublesome
-tude -ty	condition state, condition	gratitude, attitude liberty, sanity
-ward	direction, course	backward, eastward