

## Some Roots and Prefixes

(Source: Virtual Salt Reference)

ROOT or PREFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLES
a, an	<i>not, without</i>	atheist, anarchy, anonymous apathy, aphasia, anemia, atypical, anesthesia
ab	<i>away, down, from, off</i>	absent, abduction, aberrant, abstemious, abnormal, abstract, absorb
acro	<i>high, tip, top</i>	acrobat, acrophobia, acronym, acromegaly, acropolis
act	<i>do, move</i>	action, react, transaction, proactive, activity, activation, deactivate
ad	<i>to, toward</i>	admit, addition, advertisement, adherent, admonish, address, adhesive, adept, adjust
alt	<i>high</i>	altitude, altimeter, alto, contralto, altocumulus, exalt
ambul	<i>to walk</i>	ambulatory, amble, ambulance, somnambulist, perambulate, preamble
anima	<i>soul, life</i>	animation, inanimate, animal, anime, equanimity, animism, animus
ante	<i>before</i>	anteroom, antebellum, antedate antecedent, antediluvian
anti, ant	<i>against, opposite</i>	antisocial, antiseptic, antithesis, antibody, antichrist, antinomies, antifreeze, antipathy, antigen, antibiotic, antidote, antifungal, antidepressant
arm	<i>weapon</i>	army, armament, disarm, rearm, armistice, armor, armory, arms
audi	<i>to hear</i>	audience, auditory, audible, auditorium, audiovisual, audition, audiobook
auto	<i>self</i>	automobile, automatic, autograph, autonomous, autoimmune, autopilot, autobiography

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ROOT or PREFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLES
be	<i>thoroughly</i>	bedecked, besmirch, besprinkled, begrudge, begrime, belie, bemoan
bell	<i>war</i>	belligerent, antebellum, bellicose, rebel
bene	<i>good, well</i>	benefactor, beneficial, benevolent, benediction, beneficiary, benefit
bi	<i>two</i>	bicycle, bifocals, biceps, billion, binary, bivalve, bimonthly, bigamy, bimetal, biathlete, bicarbonate
bio	<i>life, living</i>	biology, biography, biodiversity, bioavailability, bioflavonoid, biofuel, biohazard, biomass, biorhythm
cede, ceed, cess	<i>to go, to yield</i>	succeed, proceed, precede, recede, secession, exceed, succession, excess
chron	<i>time</i>	chronology, chronic, chronicle, chronometer, anachronism
cide, cis	<i>to kill, to cut</i>	fratricide, suicide, incision, excision, circumcision, precise, concise, precision, homicide, genocide, regicide
circum	<i>around</i>	circumnavigate, circumflex, circumstance, circumcision, circumference, circumorbital, circumlocution, circumvent, circumscribe, circulatory
clud, clus claus	<i>to close</i>	include, exclude, clause, claustrophobia, enclose, exclusive, reclusive, conclude, preclude
con, com	<i>with, together</i>	convene, compress, contemporary, converge, compact, confluence, concatenate, conjoin, combine, convert, compatible, consequence, contract

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ROOT or PREFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLES
contra, counter	<i>against, opposite</i>	contradict, counteract, contravene, contrary, counterspy, contrapuntal, contraband, contraception, contrast, controversy, counterfeit, counterclaim, counterargument, counterclaim, counterpoint, counterrevolution
cred	<i>to believe</i>	credo, credible, credence, credit, credential, credulity, incredulous, creed, incredible
commun	<i>to share</i>	commune, community, communism, communicable, communication, commonality, incommunicado
cycl	<i>circle, wheel</i>	bicycle, cyclical, cycle, encyclical, motorcycle, tricycle, cyclone
de	<i>from, down, away</i>	detach, deploy, derange, deodorize, devoid, deflate, degenerate, deice, descend, derail, depress, depart, decompose, destruction
dei, div	<i>God, god</i>	divinity, divine, deity, divination, deify, deism
demo	<i>people</i>	democracy, demagogue, epidemic, demographic
dia	<i>through, across, between</i>	diameter, diagonal, dialogue, dialect, dialectic, diagnosis, diachronic, diagram, diaphragm, dialysis, diarrhea
dict	<i>speak</i>	predict, verdict, malediction, dictionary, dictate, dictum, diction, indict, contradict
dis, dys, dif	<i>away, not, negative</i>	dismiss, differ, disallow, disperse, dissuade, disconnect, dysfunction, disproportion, disrespect, distemper, distaste, disarray, dyslexia

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ROOT or PREFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLES
duc, duct	<i>to lead, pull</i>	produce, abduct, product, transducer, viaduct, aqueduct, induct, deduct, reduce, induce
dyn, dyna	<i>power</i>	dynamic, dynamometer, heterodyne, dynamite, dynamo, dynasty
ecto	<i>outside, external</i>	ectomorph, ectoderm, ectoplasm, ectopic, ectothermal
endo	<i>inside, within</i>	endotoxin, endoscope, endogenous
equi	<i>equal</i>	equidistant, equilateral, equilibrium, equinox, equitable, equation, equator
e, ex	<i>out, away, from</i>	emit, expulsion, exhale, exit, express, exclusive, enervate, exceed, explosion
exter, extra	<i>outside of</i>	external, extrinsic, exterior, extraordinary, extrabiblical, extracurricular, extrapolate, extraneous, exterminator, extract, extradite, extraterrestrial, extrasensory, extravagant, extreme
flu, flux	<i>flow</i>	effluence, influence, effluvium, fluctuate, confluence, reflux, influx
flect, flex	<i>to bend</i>	flexible, reflection, deflect, circumflex, inflection, reflex
graph, gram	<i>to write</i>	polygraph, grammar, biography, graphite, telegram, autograph, lithograph, historiography, graphic, electrocardiogram, monogram
hetero	<i>other</i>	heterodox, heterogeneous, heterosexual, heterodyne
homo	<i>same</i>	homogenized, homosexual, homonym, homophone

## Some Roots and Prefixes

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ROOT or PREFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLES
hyper	<i>over, above</i>	hyperactive, hypertensive, hyperbolic, hypersensitive, hyperventilate, hyperkinetic, hyperlink, hypertext, hypersonic, hypertrophy
hypo	<i>below, less than</i>	hypotension, hypodermic, hypoglycemia, hypoallergenic, hypothermia, hypothesis
in, im	<i>not</i>	inviolate, innocuous, intractable, innocent, impregnable, impossible
infra	<i>beneath</i>	infrared, infrastructure, infrasonic
inter, intro	<i>between</i>	international, intercept, intermission, interoffice, internal, intermittent, introvert, introduce
intra	<i>within, into</i>	intranet, intracranial, intravenous, intramural, intramuscular, intraocular
jac, ject	<i>to throw</i>	reject, eject, project, trajectory, interject, dejected, inject, ejaculate
log, logo, loc. loq	<i>word, speech, speak</i>	monologue, dialogue, locution, colloquial, elocution, soliloquy, ventriloquist, apology, doxology, epilogue, logic, eulogy, loquacious
mal	<i>bad, badly</i>	malformation, maladjusted, dismal, malady, malcontent, malfeasance, maleficent, malevolent, malice, malaria, malfunction, malignant
mega	<i>great, million</i>	megaphone, megalomaniac, megabyte, megalopolis
meso	<i>middle</i>	mesomorph, mesoamerica, mesosphere
meta	<i>beyond, change</i>	metaphor, metamorphosis, metabolism, metahistorical, metainformation, metacognitive

## Some Roots and Prefixes

(Source: Virtual Salt Reference)

ROOT or PREFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLES
meter	<i>measure</i>	perimeter, micrometer, ammeter, multimeter, altimeter, geometry, kilometer
micro	<i>small</i>	microscope, microprocessor, microfiche, micrometer, micrograph
mis	<i>bad, badly</i>	misinform, misinterpret, mispronounce, misnomer, mistake, misogynist, mistrial, misadventure, misanthrope, misread
mit, miss	<i>to send</i>	transmit, permit, missile, missionary, remit, admit, missive, mission
morph	<i>shape</i>	polymorphic, morpheme, amorphous, metamorphosis, morphology, morphing
multi	<i>many</i>	multitude, multipartite, multiply, multipurpose, multicolored, multimedia, multinational
neo	<i>new</i>	neologism, neonate, neoclassic, neophyte
non	<i>not</i>	nonferrous, nonabrasive, nondescript, nonfat, nonfiction, nonprofit, nonsense, nonentity
omni	<i>all</i>	omnipotent, omnivorous, omniscient, omnibus, omnirange, omnipresent
pan	<i>all, whole, general, completely</i>	pantheism, pandemic, panacea, panoply, pan-American, panchromatic, pandemonium, panorama
para	<i>beside</i>	paraprofessional, paramedic, paraphrase, parachute, paralegal, parallel, comparison
per	<i>through, intensive</i>	permit, perspire, perforate, persuade, perceive, perfect, permit, perform
peri	<i>around</i>	periscope, perimeter, perigee, periodontal

## Some Roots and Prefixes

(Source: Virtual Salt Reference)

ROOT or PREFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLES
phon	<i>sound</i>	telephone, phonics, phonograph, phonetic, homophone, microphone
phot	<i>light</i>	photograph, photosynthesis, photon
poly	<i>many</i>	polytheist, polygon, polygamy, polymorphous
port	<i>to carry</i>	porter, portable, report, transportation, deport, import, export
re	<i>back, again</i>	report, realign, retract, revise, regain, reflect, rename, restate, recombine, recalculate, redo
retro	<i>backwards</i>	retrorocket, retrospect, retrogression, retroactive
sanct	<i>holy</i>	sanctify, sanctuary, sanction, sanctimonious, sacrosanct
scrib, script	<i>to write</i>	inscription, prescribe, proscribe, manuscript, conscript, scribble, scribe
sect, sec	<i>cut</i>	intersect, transect, dissect, secant, section
semi	<i>half</i>	semifinal, semiconscious, semiannual, semimonthly, semicircle
spect	<i>to look</i>	inspect, spectator, circumspect, retrospect, prospect, spectacle
sub	<i>under, below</i>	submerge, submarine, substandard, subnormal, subvert, subdivision, submersible, submit
super, supra	<i>above</i>	superior, suprarenal, superscript, supernatural, supercede, superficial, superhero, superimpose
syn	<i>together</i>	synthesis, synchronous, syndicate, synergy, synopsis, syncretism

## Some Roots and Prefixes

(Source: Virtual Salt Reference)

ROOT or PREFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLES
tele	<i>distance, from afar</i>	television, telephone, telegraph, telemetry, telepathy
theo, the	<i>God</i>	theology, theist, polytheist, pantheism, atheist, monotheist, theophany
therm, thermo	<i>heat</i>	thermal, thermometer, thermocouple, thermodynamic, thermoelectric
tract	<i>to drag, draw</i>	attract, tractor, traction, extract, retract, protract, detract, subtract, contract, intractable
trans	<i>across</i>	transoceanic, transmit, transport, transducer, transit, intransitive
un	<i>not</i>	uncooked, unharmed, unintended, unhappy, unenlightened, unremarkable
veh, vect, vey	<i>to carry</i>	vector, vehicle, convection, vehement, convey, conveyance, conveyor
vert, vers	<i>to turn</i>	convert, revert, advertise, versatile, vertigo, invert, reversion, extravert, introvert
ven, vent	<i>to come</i>	convention, prevent, intervention, convent, Advent, invent, inventory
verm	<i>worm</i>	vermin, vermicelli, vermiculite, vermicide, vermiform, vermilion
vita	<i>life</i>	vital, vitality, vitamins, revitalize
vol	<i>to will</i>	benevolent, volition, voluntary, malevolent
vita	<i>life</i>	vital, vitality, vitamins, revitalize



**“Son of Roots”**

(Source: Virtual Salt Reference)

ROOT or PREFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLES
agon	<i>to struggle</i>	agony, protagonist, antagonist, agony, agonize,
alg	<i>pain</i>	neuralgia, analgesic, nostalgic,
alter	<i>other</i>	alternative, alternator, alteration, altercation, alternate,
am	<i>friend</i>	amiable, amorous, amity, enamored, paramour, amicable
ambi	<i>both</i>	ambidextrous, ambivalent, ambiguous, ambient
anim	<i>alive</i>	animated, animal, inanimate, animator, anime, animation, reanimate
anthrop	<i>mankind</i>	anthropology, anthropomorphic, philanthropy, misanthropology, anthropomorphic, philanthropy, misanthropy
eu	<i>good, well</i>	euphoria, eulogy, euphemism, eugenics, eucalyptus, eukaryote, eurythmics, euthanasia
fore	<i>before, front</i>	forecast, forefather, foretaste, forehead, foreman, foreboding, forecastle, forearm, forebear, foreclose, foredoom, forego, forefoot, foreground, forehand, foreknowledge, foremost, foreordain, forerunner, foresee, foreshoren, foretell
ortho	<i>straight</i>	orthodontics, orthodox, orthopedic, orthoscopic, orthostatic
post	<i>after</i>	postscript, postconsumer, postdoctoral, posterior, postimpact, postfeminism, postgraduate, posthumous, postimpressionism, postlude, postmodernism, postpone, postproduction
pre	<i>before, in front of</i>	prefix, predict, prelude, predetermined, preamplifier, predestination, prebiotic, preclude, predate, predisposed, preempt, preference, prefigure, prefrontal, preheat, prehistory, presell, presumptuous, prevent, previous, pretext, pretentious, pretend

**“Son of Roots”**

(Source: Virtual Salt Reference)

ROOT or PREFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLES
pro	<i>forward</i>	propel, proceed, produce, promote, project, proclaim, procession, profess, proffer, professor, proficient, profile, profound, profuse, progenitor, progress, prolapse, prolegomenon, prolific, prologue, prolong, pronation, pronounce, propellant, prophesy, prophecy, proponent, prorated, proscribe, prosecute, prospect, protect, protest, provide, provoke
proto	<i>first, earliest</i>	prototype, protoplasm, protohistory, protocol, protogalaxy, proton, prototypical, protozoa
quasi	<i>approximately, resembling, to some degree</i>	quasiperiodical, quasiparticle, quasi-governmental, quasi-scientific, quasi-judicial, quasi-stellar, quasi-public
ultra	<i>beyond, extremely</i>	ultraviolet, ultrasonic, ultramarine, ultrafine, ultrasensitive, ultrawide, ultrapure, ultraquiet
under	<i>beneath, below, too little</i>	undercoat, underwear, underestimate, underbid, underexpose, undercut, underclassmen, undernourished, underground, undersized, underhand, underlay, undermine, underneath, underpass, underpowered, underline, understand, undertake, undertone, undertow, undervalue, underwrite

## A Handful of Suffixes

(Source: Virtual Salt Reference)

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