

## PREFIXES

### The most common prefixes

PREFIX	EXAMPLE
<b>anti-</b> (=against)	anti-war, anti-government
<b>bi-</b> (=two)	bilingual, bilateral
<b>co-</b> (=with, together)	cooperate, coordinate
<b>counter-</b> (=in the opposite direction)	counterattack, counteract
<b>de-</b> (=acting against)	deforestation, deactivate
<b>ex-</b> (=former, before)	ex-husband, ex-wife
<b>inter-</b> (=between)	intercontinental, interdisciplinary
<b>mini-</b> (=small)	minicomputer, minibar
<b>mis-</b> (=wrongly)	mishear, misplace
<b>mono-</b> (=one)	monosyllables, monogamy
<b>multi-</b> (=many)	multiracial, multicultural
<b>non-</b> (=not)	non-stop, non-alcoholic
<b>over-</b> (=too much)	overcharge, overestimate
<b>post-</b> (=after)	post colonialism, post-war
<b>pre-</b> (=before)	prehistoric, prenatal
<b>pro-</b> (=for, in favour of)	pro-British, pro-life
<b>re-</b> (=again)	rewrite, retake
<b>semi-</b> (=half)	semicircle, semi-detached
<b>sub-</b> (=under)	subway, subordinate
<b>super-</b> (=above, more than)	supernatural, superstore
<b>trans-</b> (=across)	transatlantic, transmission
<b>tri-</b> (=three)	tricycle, triceps
<b>under-</b> (=not enough)	underpaid, underestimate
<b>uni-</b> (=one)	unisex, unilateral

### Prefixes that make words opposite

PREFIX	EXAMPLE
<b>dis-</b>	disadvantage, disappear, dishonest
<b>il- (+ l)</b>	illegal, illogical
<b>im- (+ m or p)</b>	improper, impolite
<b>in-</b>	indirect, inconvenient
<b>ir- (+ r)</b>	irresponsible, irregular
<b>non-</b>	non-alcoholic, non-stop
<b>un-</b>	unconventional, uncertain

## SUFFIXES

### Suffixes that change words into nouns

SUFFIX	EXAMPLE
<b>-ment</b>	government, employment
<b>-ion/-tion/-sion</b>	discussion/proportion/permission
<b>-ation/-ition</b>	invitation/definition
<b>-ence/-ance</b>	persistence/distance
<b>-ty/-ity</b>	certainty/security
<b>-ness</b>	willingness, sweetness
<b>-ing</b>	building, understanding

SUFFIX	EXAMPLE
<b>-er/-or</b>	writer/editor
<b>-ist</b>	typist
<b>-ant/-ent</b>	assistant/student
<b>-an/-ian</b>	Republican/electrician
<b>-ee</b>	employee

### Suffixes that change words into verbs

SUFFIX	EXAMPLE
<b>-ise/-ize (American English)</b>	revolutionise/privatise
<b>-en</b>	widen, brighten

### Suffixes that change words into adjectives

SUFFIX	EXAMPLE
<b>-al</b>	professional
<b>-ic</b>	scientific
<b>-ive</b>	exclusive
<b>-ful</b>	successful
<b>-less</b>	hopeless
<b>-ous</b>	luxurious
<b>-y</b>	rocky
<b>-ly</b>	costly
<b>-able/-ible</b>	comfortable/comprehensible

### Suffixes that change words into adverbs

SUFFIX	EXAMPLE
<b>-ly</b>	nervously, suddenly, recently