

## Prefixes

A prefix is one or more letters or syllables that, when placed before a root or word, changes the meaning of the root or word. A prefix is an affix.

Prefix	Meaning	Example
after-	after	afternoon
ambi-	around, both	ambiguous
amphi-	around, both, on both sides	amphipod
ante-	before, earlier, in front of	antechamber
anti-	against	antisocial, antibiotic
auto-	self, same	autobiography
bene-	good, well	benevolent
bi-	two	bicycle
by-	near, aside	bystander
cent-	hundred	centimeter, century
circu-	around	circumnavigate
co-	together	cooperative
con-	with	context
contra-	against, opposite of	contraband
counter-	against, opposite of	counterproductive
de-	out of, away from, down	defrost
dec-, deci	ten	decimal
di-	two	dilemma
dia	through, across	diagonal
dis-	not, opposite of	displeasure
ex-	former	ex-husband
extra-	beyond, outside of more than usual	extraordinary extra-special
fore-	before, in advance of	foretell, foreground
hemi-	half	hemisphere
hetero-	various, unlike	heterogeneous
homo-	same	homogeneous

## Prefixes

hyper-	beyond, above	hyperspace
hypo-	below, beneath, under	hypodermic
in-	not, opposite of	insane
il-	not, opposite of	illogical
im-	not, opposite of	imperfect
inter-	between	international
intro-	in, into, within	introduction
ir-	not	irrational
kilo-	thousand	kilowatt
mal-	bad	malodorous
maxi-	most, largest	maximum
mega-	million, very large	megawatt
meta-	beyond, beside, after	metaphysics, metacognition
micro-	one-millionth, very small	microchip
mid-	middle	midway
milli-	thousandth	millimeter
mini-	small	minibus
mis-	wrong	misunderstand
mono-	one, single	monotheist, monogram
multi-	many	multicultural
non-	not	nonsense
omni-	all	omnipotent
out-	more, to a greater degree	outdistance
over-	more than normal	oversleep
paleo-	ancient, prehistoric, early	paleontologist
pan-	all	pan-American
para-	beside, beyond	para-professional
penta-	five	pentamorous
poly-	many	polygon
post-	after	postscript, postwar
pre-	before	prepare, prepaid
pro-	for, forward	proactive
pseudo-	counterfeit, false,	pseudo-science
quad-	four	quadruple

## Prefixes

re-	back, do again	rewrite, rebuild
retro-	back, backward, behind	retroactive
semi-	half	semicircle
sub-	under	submarine
super-	above, beyond	superhuman
supra-	above, beyond	supramolecular
syn, sym, syl	together, with	synthesize, symphony, syllable
tele-	far, over a long distance	telephone, telegraph
trans-	across	transport
tri-	three	tricycle, triangle
ultra-	beyond a certain limit	ultraviolet
un-	not, opposite	unprepared, undo
uni-	one, single	uniform