

LATIN PREFIXES

Those prefixes which are underlined below sometimes merely emphasize the meaning of the base and do not have semantic influence upon it.

| <u>Prefix</u> | <u>Meaning</u> | <u>Example(s)</u> |
|--|---|-----------------------------|
| <i>ab-, abs-, a-</i> | away, from | abnormal, abstain, avert |
| <u>ad-</u> (<i>ab-, ac-, etc.</i>) | to, toward, near, very much | admire, affect, allude |
| <i>amb(i)-</i> | on both sides, around | ambidextrous, ambivalent |
| <i>ante-</i> | before, in front of | antecedent, antepenult |
| <i>circum-</i> | around, on all sides | circumvent, circumference |
| <u>co-</u> , <u>con-</u> , <u>com-</u> | together, with, very much | coeval, compel, conform |
| <i>contra-, counter-</i> | opposite, against | contradict, counteract |
| <u>de-</u> | down, away from, very much | dejected, devious, derelict |
| <i>dis-, di-, dif-</i> | apart, not | dismiss, dilate, different |
| <u>e-</u> , <u>ex-</u> , <u>ef-</u> | from, out of, beyond, without; former, very much, bad(ly) | eliminate, extract |
| <i>extra-, extro-</i> | outside, beyond | extrovert, extraordinary |
| <u>in-</u> [<u>en-</u>] | in, within, into, on, against, completely | illustrate, immerse |
| <i>in-</i> | not (cf. English "un") | illegal, immutable |
| <i>infra-</i> | below, under | infra-red |
| <i>inter-</i> | between, among | intervene, interdental |
| <i>intra-, intro-</i> | within, inside | introvert, intramural |
| <i>juxta-</i> | near, next to | juxtapose |

| <u>Prefix</u> | <u>Meaning</u> | <u>Example(s)</u> |
|---|--|---|
| <i>ne-</i> | not | nefarious |
| <i>non-</i> | not | nonlegal, nonmoral |
| <i>ob-</i> | toward, against, in the way | occur, offensive |
| <u><i>per-</i></u> | through, to the bad, thoroughly | perspire, perfidious |
| <i>post-</i> | after, behind, later | postpone, postoperative |
| <i>prae-, pre-</i> | before, in front of, forth | previous, prevent |
| <i>preter-</i> | beyond | preternatural |
| <i>pro-</i> | before, forth, forward; in behalf of, in favor of | progress, pronoun |
| <i>quasi-</i> | almost, like | quasi-circular |
| <i>re-, red-</i> | back, again, away | recede, renascent |
| <i>retro-</i> | backward | retroactive, retrograde |
| <i>se-, sed-</i> | without, apart, to one side | segregate, sedition |
| <i>sin(e)-</i> | without | sinecure, sincere |
| <i>sub-</i> | under, below, inferior | subject, support |
| <i>subter-</i> | under | subtercutaneous |
| <u><i>super-</i></u> [<u><i>sur-</i></u>] | above, over, very much | supercede, superrefined |
| <i>supra-</i> | above | supraspinal, surprise |
| <i>trans-, tra-, tran-</i> | across, change | transgress, transform |
| <i>ultra-</i> [<i>outr-</i>] | beyond, excessively | ultramarine, ultramodern, outrageous |

LATIN SUFFIXES

These are the most important English suffixes derived from Latin. They are arranged by usage: adjective-forming, noun-forming, verb-forming.

| <u>Suffix</u> | <u>Meaning</u> | <u>Example(s)</u> |
|---------------|----------------|-------------------|
|---------------|----------------|-------------------|

ADJECTIVE-FORMING SUFFIXES

"able to be"

| | | |
|-------|---------------------------------|----------|
| -able | able to be, able to, tending to | capable |
| -ible | able to be, able to, tending to | flexible |
| -ile | able to be, able to, tending to | docile |

"tending to"

| | | |
|---------|------------------------------|---------------|
| -acious | tending to, inclined to | pugnacious |
| -id | tending to, inclined to | intrepid |
| -itious | tending to, characterized by | surreptitious |
| -ive | tending to, inclined to | instructive |
| -ory | tending to, serving for | prefatory |
| -ulous | tending to, inclined to | incredulous |
| -uous | tending to, inclined to | tenuous |

"pertaining to"

| | | |
|-----------------|--|---------------|
| -ain | pertaining to | mountain |
| -al, -ial, -eal | pertaining to, like, belonging to, having the character of | arboreal |
| -an, -ean, -ian | pertaining to, like, belonging to, having the character of | Shakespearean |
| -ane | pertaining to, like, belonging to, having the character of | urbane |
| -ar | pertaining to, like, belonging to, having the character of | muscular |
| -ary | pertaining to, connected with, having the character of | literary |
| -ic | pertaining to, like | volcanic |
| -il(e) | pertaining to, like, belonging to, having the character of | puerile |
| -ine | pertaining to, like, of | canine |
| -tic | pertaining to, like | rustic |

| <u>Suffix</u> | <u>Meaning</u> | <u>Example(s)</u> |
|--------------------|--|-------------------|
| | "-ing" (present participle) | |
| -ant | -ing | mutant |
| -ent, -ient | -ing | redolent |
| | "possessing" (past participle) | |
| -ate | possessing, being | inanimate |
| -it(e) | possessing, being | tripartite |
| | "making" | |
| -ific | making, causing | scientific |
| | "full of" | |
| -(u)lent, -(o)lent | full of, disposed to | fraudulent |
| -ose, -iose | full of | verbose |
| -ous, -ious, -eous | full of, having the character of, like | bilious |

NOUN-FORMING SUFFIXES

| | | |
|----------------------|--|--------------|
| | "quality of, state of" (abstract qualities) | |
| -acity | quality of being inclined to | rapacity |
| -acy | quality of being, quality of having | legacy |
| -ance, -ancy | quality/state of -ing, that which | occupancy |
| -ence, -ency | quality/state of -ing, that which | audience |
| -(i)tude | quality of, state of | multitude |
| -ity, -ety, -ty | quality of, state of | sobriety |
| -(u)lence, -(o)lence | state or quality of | violence |
| -imony | quality of, state of, that which | alimony |
| -or (Brit. -our) | state of | tremor |
| -y | quality of, state of, act of, result of | custody |
| | "that which must be" | |
| -and(um), | that which must be -ed | agenda |
| -(i)end(um) | | |
| | "place for" | |
| -ary, -arium | place for | mortuary |
| -ory, -orium | place for | conservatory |

| <u>Suffix</u> | <u>Meaning</u> | <u>Example(s)</u> |
|---------------|---|-------------------|
| | "office of" | |
| -ate | office of, holders of the office of | potentate |
| | "act of, result of" (concrete nouns) | |
| -ion | act of, state of, result of | action |
| -men | result of, means of, act of, state of | regimen |
| -ment | result of, means of, act of, state of | regiment |
| -ure | act of | tenure |
| | "one who" (agent) | |
| -or | one who does, that which does | malefactor |
| -rix | she who does | aviatrix |
| | "little" (diminutive) | |
| -cle, -icle | little | auricle |
| -cule, -icule | little | molecule |
| -el | little | novel |
| -et, -ette | little | palette |
| -il, -ile | little | pupil |
| -le | little | scruple |
| -ole | little | aureole |
| -ule | little | globule |

VERB-FORMING SUFFIXES

| | | |
|------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| | "to" | |
| -at(e) | to | officiate |
| -ite | to | expedite |
| | "to begin" (inchoative) | |
| -esce | to begin, become | convalesce |
| | "to make" | |
| -ify, -efy | to make | mollify |