

Frequently Used Prefixes

Prefix	Meaning	Example
A, an	Without, not	Atypical, anarchy
Ab	Away from	Absent, abnormal
Ad	Toward	Advance, administer
Ambi, amphi	Both, around	Ambiguous, amphibious
Anno	Year	Annual
Anti, contra, ob	Against	Antisocial contradict
Bene, eu	Well, good	Benefactor, eulogy
Bi, du, di	Two or twice	Bicycle, duet, dichotomy
Cata, cath	Down, downward	Catacombs
Cent, hector	Hundred	Centipede
Con, com, syn	With, together	Congregate, synthesis
De	Down, from	Depose, detract
Dec, deca	Ten	Decade
Demi, hemi, semi	Half	Hemisphere, semicircle
Dia	Through	Diameter, diagram
Dis, un	Ill, hard	Dystrophy
Ex	Out from	Exhale, expel
Extra	Beyond, outside	Extralegal
Hyper	Above, excessive	Hyperactive
Hypo	Under	Hypodermic
Il, im, in	Not	Illogical, impossible
Im, in	In, into	Inside, insert, import
Infra	Lower	Infrared
Inter	Between	Intercede, interrupt
Intra	Within	Intramural
Juxta	Next to	Juxtaposition
Mal, mis	Wrong, ill	Malformed, mislead
Mill	Thousand	Milligram
Nove, non	Nine	Novena, nonagon
Oct, octo	Eight	Octopus
Omni, pan	All	Omnipotent, pantheist
Per,	Through	Perennial, pervade
Peri, circum	Around	Perimeter, circumvent
Poly, multi	Many	Polygamy, multiply
Post	After	Postscript
Pre, ante	Before	Prepared, antebellum
Pon, pos	To place	Depose, position
Port	To carry	Porter, portable
Pseudo	False	Pseudonym
Pyr	Fire	Pyromaniac
Psysh	Mind	Psychology
Quir	To ask	Inquire, acquire
Rog	To question	Interrogate
Scrib, graph	To write	Prescribe, autograph
Sect, seg	To cut	Dissect, segment
Sol	Alone	Solitude