



Suffix	Meaning	Examples
-able	able to be	excitable, portable, preventable
-ac	pertaining to	cardiac, hemophiliac, maniac
-acity (-ocity)	quality of	perspicacity, sagacity, velocity
-ade	act, action or process, product	blockade, cavalcade, promenade,
-age	action or process	passage, pilgrimage, voyage
-aholic (-oholic)	one with an obsession for	workaholic, shopaholic, alcoholic
-al	relating to	bacterial, theatrical, natural
-algia	pain	neuralgia, nostalgia,
-an (-ian)	relating to, belonging to	Italian, urban, African
-ance	state or quality of	brilliance, defiance, annoyance
-ant	a person who	applicant, immigrant, servant
	inclined to, tending to	brilliant, defiant, vigilant
-ar	of or relating to, being	lunar, molecular, solar
	a person who	beggar, burglar, liar
-ard	a person who does an action	coward, sluggard, wizard
-arian	a person who	disciplinarian, vegetarian, librarian
-arium (orium)	a place for	terrarium, aquarium, solarium
-ary	of or relating to	literary, military, budgetary
-ate	state or quality of (adj.)	affectionate, desolate, obstinate
	makes the word a verb (different pronunciation)	activate, evaporate, medicate
-ation	action or process	creation, narration, emancipation
-ative	tending to (adj.)	creative, preservative, talkative
-cide	act of killing	homicide, suicide, genocide
-cracy	rule, government, power	bureaucracy, aristocracy, theocracy
-crat	someone who has power	aristocrat, bureaucrat, technocrat
-cule	diminutive (making something small)	molecule, ridicule,
-cy	state, condition or quality	efficiency, privacy, belligerency
-cycle	circle, wheel	bicycle, recycle, tricycle
-dom	condition of, state, realm	boredom, freedom, wisdom
-dox	belief, praise	orthodox, paradox
-ectomy	surgical removal of	appendectomy, hysterectomy
-ed	past tense	called, hammered, laughed
-ee	receiver, performer	nominee, employee, devotee
-eer	associated with/engaged in	engineer, volunteer
-emia	blood condition	anemia, hypoglycemia, leukemia
-en	makes the word a verb	awaken, fasten, strengthen
-ence	state or condition, action	absence, dependence, negligence
-ency	condition or quality	clemency, dependency, efficiency
-ent	inclined to performing/causing, or one who performs/causes	competent, correspondent, absorbent
-er	more	bigger, faster, happier
	action or process	flutter, ponder, stutter
	a person who does an action	announcer, barber, teacher
-ern	state or quality of	eastern, northern, western
-escence	state or process	adolescence, convalescence
-ese	relating to a place	Chinese, Congolese, Vietnamese
-esque	in the style of	Kafkaesque, grotesque, burlesque
-ess	female	actress, heiress, lioness
-est	most	funniest, hottest, silliest
-etic	relating to (makes the word an adj.)	athletic, energetic, poetic



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-ette	diminutive (makes something smaller)	cigarette, diskette, kitchenette
-ful	full of	helpful, thankful, cheerful
-fy	make, cause (makes the word a verb)	amplify, falsify, terrify
-gam/gamy	marriage, union	monogam, polygamy
-gon/gonic	angle	hexagon, polygonic, pentagon
-hood	state, condition, or quality	childhood, neighborhood, motherhood
-ial	relating to	celestial, editorial, martial
-ian	relating to	Martian, utopian, pediatrician
-iasis	diseased condition	elephantiasis, psoriasis
-iatic	healing practice	pediatric, psychiatric,
-ible	able to be	audible, plausible, legible
-ic/ical	relating to, characterized by	analytic/al, comic/al, organic
-ile	relating to, capable of	agile, docile, volatile
-ily	in what manner	sloppily, steadily, zanily
-ine	relating to	canine, feminine, masculine
-ing	materials	bedding, frosting, roofing
	action or process	dancing, seeing, writing
-ion	action or process	celebration, completion, navigation
-ious	having the qualities of, full of	ambitious, cautious, gracious
-ish	relating to, characteristic	apish, brutish, childish
-ism	state or quality	altruism, despotism, heroism
-ist	a person, one who does an action	artist, linguist, pianist
-ite	resident of, follower, product of	suburbanite, luddite, dynamite
-itis	inflammation, preoccupation	appendicitis, tonsillitis, frontrunneritis
-ity	state, condition, or quality	abnormality, civility, necessity
-ive	inclined to; quality of; that which	attractive, expensive, repulsive
-ization	act or process of making	colonization, fertilization, modernization
-ize	cause, treat, become	antagonize, authorize, popularize
-less	without	fearless, helpless, homeless
-let	version of	booklet, droplet, inlet
-like	resembling, characteristic	childlike, homelike, lifelike
-ling	younger or inferior	duckling, underling
-loger/logist	one who does	astrologer, cardiologist, chronologer
-log	speech	dialog, monolog,
-ly	in what manner	badly, courageously, happily
-ment	action, result	movement, placement, shipment
-ness	state or quality (makes a noun)	kindness, shyness, weakness
-oid	resembling	humanoid, tabloid, hemorrhoid
-ology	study of, science of	anthropology, archaeology, biology
-oma	tumor, swelling	carcinoma, osteoma, hematoma
-onym	name, word	synonym, antonym, homonym
-opia	eye defect	myopia, nyctalopia, hyperopia
-opsy	examination	biopsy, autopsy, necropsy
-or	a person who	inventor, legislator, translator
-ory	relating to	armory, dormitory, laboratory
-osis	process, diseased condition	diagnosis, prognosis, neurosis, psychosis
-ostomy/otomy	surgical	colostomy, lobotomy, craniotomy
-ous	full of	hazardous, humorous, wondrous
-path	one who engages in	homeopath, naturopath, psychopath



Suffix	Meaning	Examples
-pathy	feeling, diseased	sympathy, apathy, neuropathy
-phile	one who loves	bibliophile, audiophile, pyrophile
-phobia	abnormal fear of	acrophobia, claustrophobia, xenophobia
-phone	sound	homophone, telephone, microphone
-phyte	plant, to grow	zoophyte, cryptophyte, epiphyte
-plegia	paralysis	paraplegia, quadriplegia, hemiplegia
-plegic	one who is paralyzed	paraplegic, technoplegic, quadriplegic
-pnea	air, spirit	apnea, hyperpnea, orthopnea
-scopy/scope	visual exam	arthroscopy, gastroscopy, microscope
-scribe/script	to write	transcript, describe, manuscript
-sect	to cut	dissect, insect, bisect
-ship	state or condition of, skill of	authorship, citizenship, friendship
-sion	state or quality	confusion, depression, tension
-some	characterized by, group of	cumbersome, quarrelsome, foursome
-sophy/sophic	wisdom, knowledge	philosophy, theosophy, anthroposophic
-th	state or quality	depth, length, strength
-tion	state or quality	attention, caution, fascination
-tome/tomy	to cut	hysterectomy, epitome, tonsillotomy
-trophy	nourishment, growth	atrophy, hypertrophy, dystrophy
-tude	state, condition or quality	fortitude, gratitude, magnitude
-ty	state, condition or quality	ability, honesty, loyalty
-ular	relating to or resembling	cellular, circular, muscular
-uous	state or quality of	arduous, tumultuous, virtuous
-ure	action, condition	closure, erasure, failure
-ward	specifies direction	backward, eastward, homeward
-ware	things of the same type or material	hardware, software, kitchenware
-wise	in what manner or direction	clockwise, lengthwise, otherwise
-y	made up of, characterized	brainy, fruity, gooey