

Prefix & Suffix List

Prefixes

Prefix	Definition	Example
a-, an-	not, without, less	abiotic, anaerobic
ad-	to, attached to	adsorption
amphi-	both	amphibian
ana-	away, throughout, again	analysis
anthropo-	referring to man	anthropology
anti-	against	antimitotic
arche-	ancient, primitive, beginning	archeology
arth-	joint, jointed	arthritis
auto-	self	autogenous
bacterio-	pertaining to bacteria	bacteriophage
bi-	two, twice, double	bipolar, binocular
bio-	related to life	biology
blast-, blasto-	an embryonic layer or cell	blastomere
carn-	flesh	carnivore
cata-	decomposition, degradation	catabolism
cephal-	head	cephalic
chloro-	green, containing chloride	chlorophyll, chloride
chrom-	colored	chromosome
cyst-	bladder	cystitis
cyto-	cell	cytology
de-	undoing of, removal of, from	dehydration
di-	double	disaccharide
dia-	through, across	diameter
diplo-	twofold, double	diploid
dis-	apart, away	dissolve
end-	in	endemic
ecto-	outside	ectoderm
endo-	within, internal	endoskeleton
epi-	upon, above	epidermis
erythro-	red	erythrocyte
eu-	proper, true, good	eukaryote
ex-	out, from	excise
exo-	outer, external	exoskeleton
extra-	outside of, beyond	extracellular
gam-	unit of sexual fusion	gamete
gastro-	stomach	gastric
gen-	origin, development	genetics, genesis
geo-	earth	geology
gyn-	female reproductive organs	gynecology
haplo-	single	haploid
heme-, hemo	blood	hematologist
herb-	pertaining to plants	herbicide
herp-	pertaining to snakes, reptiles	herpetology
hetero-	different, other	heterozygous
histo-	tissue	histology
homo-, homeo-	same, similar, like	homogenous
hydro-	pertaining to water	hydrolysis
hyper-	above, more than normal	hyperactive
hypo-	below, less than normal	hypodermic
ichthy-	referring to fish	ichthyology
inter-	between	intercellular
intra-	within, inside	intracellular
iso-	equal	isotonic
leuc-, leuk-	white	leukocyte
lysis-	a releasing, loosening, to burst	lysis

Prefix	Definition	Example
macro-	large	macromolecule
meso-	middle	mesoderm
meta-	later, following, changed in position or form	metamorphosis
micro-	small	microbiology
milli-	a thousandth part	millimeter
mille-	a thousand	millipede
mito-	thread	mitosis
mono-	one	monocular
morph-	form	morphology
multi-	consisting of many units	multicellular
myo-	muscle	myoglobin
neuro-	nerve	neurology
ophthalm-	referring to the eye	ophthalmology
omni-	all	omnipotent
oo-	pertaining to an egg	oology
ortho-	position usually straight or upright, correct, across from or perpendicular to in chemistry	orthopedic
osteo-	bone	osteocyte
ovul-, ova-	egg	ovary
para-	beside	parasitism
path-	disease	pathogenic
peri-	around	perimeter
photo-	pertaining to light	photosynthesis
phyto-	pertaining to plants	phytohormone
plasm-	formative substance	plasmablasts
poly-	many	polyandry
post-	after	postnatal
pre-	before	prepupal
pri-	first	primary
pro-	before	protoderm
proto-	first	protozoa
pseudo-	false	psuedopod
re-	back, again	repeat
rhiz-	pertaining to roots, rootlike	rhizoid
somat-, soma-	body	somatic
sperma-, spermato-	seed	spermatozoa
sporo-	spore	sporophyte
stoma-, stome-	mouth	somodaem
sub-	below, under, smaller	subspecies
sym-, syn,	together, with	synthesis
supra -, super-	above, over	superovulation
tel-, tele-	distant, end	telephase
tetra-	four	tetrapod
therm-	heat	thermometer
trans-	across, through, over	transfer
tri-	three	triploid
troph-	to feed or eat	trophblast
uni-	consisting of one	unicellular
zoo-	referring to animals	zoology

