

Prefixes

Prefixes are letters which we add to the beginning of a word to make a new word with a different meaning. Prefixes can, for example, create a new word opposite in meaning to the word the prefix is attached to.

anti-

**Meaning - against,
opposed to**

**antibiotic
antisocial
antidote**

auto-

Meaning - self

**autobiography
automobile
automatic**

de-

**Meaning - reverse or
change**

**decrease
deflate
depress**

dis-

**Meaning - reverse or
remove**

**disqualify
disrespect
disloyal**

down-

**Meaning - reduce or
lower**

**downgrade
downhearted
downfall**

extra-

Meaning - beyond

**extraterrestrial
extraordinary
extracurricular**

hyper-

Meaning - extreme

hyperactive
hyperspace
hypertension

il-, im-, in-, ir-

Meaning - not

**illegal
impossible
insecure
irregular**

inter-

Meaning - between

**interactive
interstellar
international**

mega-

**Meaning - very big,
important**

**megapolis
megalomaniac
megastar**

mid-

Meaning - middle

**midnight
midday
mid-winter**

mis-

**Meaning - incorrectly,
badly**

**mislead
misspelt
misaligned**

non-

Meaning - not

**nonsense
non-smoking
non-payment**

over-

Meaning - too much

**overcook
overcharge
overrate**

out-

Meaning - go beyond

outdo

outrun

out-perform

post-

Meaning - after

**post-war
post-election
postdate**

pre-

Meaning - before

**prehistoric
preschool
prepay**

pro-

Meaning - in favour of

**pro-Communist
pro-French
proslavery**

re-

Meaning - again

**rewrite
rediscover
reconsider**

semi-

Meaning - half

**semicircle
semifinal
semidetached**

sub-

Meaning - under, below

**submarine
sub-Saharan
subcontractor**

super-

Meaning - above, beyond

**superstar
supernatural
superhero**

tele-

Meaning - at a distance

**television
telescope
telegraph**

trans-

**Meaning - across,
through, change**

**transatlantic
transplant
transform**

ultra-

**Meaning - on the far side
of, beyond**

**ultrasound
ultraviolet
ultramodern**

un-

**Meaning - remove,
reverse, not**

**undo
unpack
unhappy**

under-

**Meaning - less than,
beneath**

**undercook
underestimate
underfed**

up-

**Meaning - make or move
higher**

**upgrade
uphill
uplift**

