

Common Prefixes

prefix	common meaning	examples
un-	1. not 2. opposite of, contrary to	1. unhappy 2. unrest
re-	1. again, anew 2. backwards, back	1. rebuild 2. react
in-, im-, ir-, il-	1. not	1. inactive, immobile, irrational, illegal
dis-	1. not 2. opposite of 3. remove	1. dissimilar 2. disfavor 3. discolor
en-, em-	1. put or go into or onto 2. to cause to be	1. encage, embed 2. endear, emblaze
non-	1. not	1. nonhuman
in-, im-	1. into, inside, within	1. inbound, immerge
over-	1. above, too much	1. overuse
mis-	1. bad, wrong 2. failure, lack	1. misconduct 2. misfire
sub-	1. below, under 2. secondary 3. less than complete	1. subsoil 2. subplot 3. subhuman
pre-	1. before, in front of	1. prehistoric
inter-	1. between, among	1. international
fore-	1. before, in front of	1. forerunner
de-	1. make opposite of 2. remove 3. reduce	1. decriminalize 2. dethrone 3. declass
trans-	1. across, beyond 2. change 3. through	1. transatlantic 2. transcribe 3. transfer
super-	1. above, over 2. superior 3. excessive	1. superimpose 2. superfine 3. supercharge
semi-	1. half 2. partial 3. happening two times during	1. semicircle 2. semiconscious 3. semimonthly
anti-	1. opposite, counteracting	1. antigravity, antibody
mid-	1. middle	1. midstream
under-	1. beneath, below, less in degree	1. underage