

<http://www.macroevolution.net/suffix-prefix-dictionary.html>

SUFFIX PREFIX DICTIONARY.

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Suffix Prefix Dictionary is the most comprehensive online dictionary of biological and medical prefixes and suffixes. It defines more biomedical prefixes and suffixes than any other online source, and provides examples of each (most examples are linked to their definitions in the [biology dictionary](#) on this site). The list is alphabetical, which lets you look terms up even if you're not sure about their exact spellings. The two indexes at below, one for the prefix dictionary, and the other for the suffix dictionary, allow you to find prefix and suffix meanings by clicking on the first letter of the particular prefix or suffix you're looking for. You can also use the [automated search engine](#), which searches the entire [prefix and suffix dictionary](#).

What is an Affix?

Suffix Prefix Dictionary is a dictionary of affixes (prefixes and suffixes) used by biologists and physicians in constructing scientific names and terminology. In general, they are either of Latin or Greek derivation. An affix is a letter or series of letters attached to the beginning or end of a word, word base, or phrase to produce a derivative word with a new meaning. For example, in the word *termitary*, the suffix *-ary*, meaning connected with or belonging to, is attached to the end of the word *termite* (after dropping the e). So a termitary, a mound where termites live, is a place belonging to termites.

In general, the prefixes and suffixes used in constructing scientific terminology and med terms are either of Latin or Greek derivation. In constructing these terms, nearly always, a Latin prefix goes with a Latin suffix, and a Greek prefix goes with a Greek suffix. Word parts derived from proper names constitute an important exception.

Proper Names as Prefixes

In scientific names it is also common to use geographic and personal names to form prefixes and suffixes. Examples of geographic prefixes are *altaicus* (= residing in the Altai Mountains of Central Asia), *europaeus* (= European), *anatoliensis* (= occurring in Anatolia). An example of a personal name used as a prefix is *rogersii* (= of Rogers). Suffixes can also be derived from proper names (e.g., "-watt" in megawatt, or "-dalton" in kilodalton), but this is more unusual. Suffix Prefix Dictionary does not, of course, include the innumerable proper names used as prefixes in the construction of scientific names, but users should consider this possibility when they fail to find a particular prefix here in the dictionary.

Two Spelling Rules:

When a suffix beginning with a consonant is added to a root or prefix ending with a consonant, a vowel, usually *-o-*, is added as a connector.

Biological terminology and med terms of Greek or Latin origin ending in *-a* regularly drop the *-a* before a suffix beginning with a vowel:

[pleura](#) + *-al* = [pleural](#)
[urea](#) + *-ic* = [ureic](#)
[lamina](#) + *-ectomy* = [laminectomy](#)

PREFIXES STARTING WITH:

a- or **an-** [Greek *a-* and *an-* un-, non-] Negative, not ([abiotic](#), [acaulescent](#), [acephalia](#), [aphasia](#), [asexual](#), [atrophy](#), [anorexia](#)).
Note: *a-* is used before consonants other than *h* (and sometimes even before *h*); before vowels, and usually before *h*, *an-* is used.

ab- [Latin *ab* departing from] Away from, outside of ([abaxial](#)).

abdomin- or **abdomino-** [Latin *abdomen*] Denotes the [abdomen](#) ([abdominogenital](#), [abdominopelvic](#)).

abro- [Greek *habros* delicate] Delicate, graceful (*Abrocoma* = a [genus](#) of fine-haired, South American rodents).

ac- See: [ad-](#).

acanth- or **acantho-** [Greek *akantha* thorn] Thorn, spine, any sharp process ([acanthoid](#)).

acar- or **acari-** or **acario-** or **acaro-** [Greek *akari* mite] Denotes ticks or mites ([acarine](#), [acarology](#)).

accipitr- [Latin *accipiter* hawk] Denotes a bird of prey, usually goshawks or sparrowhawks ([accipitral](#)).

acet- or **aceto-** or **acetyl-** [Latin *acetum* vinegar, sour wine] Vinegar, acid, acetic, acetyl ([acetamide](#)).

aci- Indicates the acid of a [tautomeric](#) compound.

acicul- [Latin *acicula* small pin] Needle, needlelike ([aciculate](#)).

acipenser- [Latin *acipenser* sturgeon] Denotes sturgeon ([Acipenseriformes](#)).

acou- or **acous-** or **acouso-** or **acoust-** [Greek *akouein* to hear] Denotes hearing ([acoumeter](#)).

acr- or **acro-** [Greek *akros* uppermost] At the top or apex ([acrogenous](#), [acromion](#)).

acrid- or **acrido-** [Greek *akris* grasshopper] Denotes grasshopper(s) ([Acrididae](#)).

acromio- [Greek *akromion* acromion] Denotes the [acromion](#) ([acromiohumeral](#)).

actin- or **actino-** [Greek *aktis* ray] Having rays, radiating spines, or tentacles ([Actinophrys](#)).

acu- [Latin *acus* needle, pin] With a needle (acupuncture, [acusection](#)).

acule- or **aculeo-** [Latin *aculeus* sting, spine, thorn, prickle, point, spike] Stinging, prickly; prickle, thorn, spine ([aculeolate](#)).

acumin- [Latin *acumen* sharpened point, spur; sting; peak] Pointed, sharp, tapering, stinging ([acuminate](#)).

acuti- or **acuto-** [Latin *acutus* sharp, sharpened, pointed; severe; acute] Pointed, sharp, severe, acute ([acutifoliate](#)).

ad- [Latin *ad* to, up to, towards; near, at; on] Toward, at, on ([adducent](#), [adrenal](#)). Note: *ad-* becomes *ac-* before *c*, *k*, or *q* ([acclimation](#)); *af-* before *f* ([affluent](#)); *ag-* before *g* ([agglutinate](#)); *al-* before *l* (allusion); *ap-* before *p* ([approximal](#)); *as-* before *s* (assimilate); *at-* before *t* (rare).

aden- or **adeno-** [Greek *aden* gland] Denotes gland ([adenocarcinoma](#)).

adip- or **adipo-** [Latin *adeps* fat, grease; fatty tissue] Denotes fat ([adipose](#), [adiposis](#)).

adren- or **adrenal-** or **adreno-** [Latin *ad* and *renalis* pertaining to the kidney] Denotes the adrenal gland ([adrenosterone](#)). See: [adren-](#).

aer- or **aeri-** or **aero-** [Latin *aer* air] Air (aerobic).

aequi- In [taxonomic](#) names: variant of [equi](#).

aesthesi- or **aesthesio-** See: [esthesi-](#).

aetio- See: [etio-](#).

af- See: [ad-](#).

after- Subsequent, behind; the word *after* retains its ordinary meaning when used as a prefix ([afterbirth](#)).

ag- See: [ad-](#).

agr- or **agri-** or **agrio-** [Latin *ager* field, farm] Denotes farming, fields, rusticity, or wildness ([agriculture](#)).

alb- or **albi-** or **albid-** or **albu-** [Latin *albus* white, pale, fair, gray; bright, clear] White, pale, bright ([albino](#)).

alg- or **alge-** or **alges-** or **algesi-** or **algesio-** or **algi-** or **algio-** or **alگو-** [Greek *algesia* sense of pain] Denotes pain or sensitivity to pain ([algesia](#)).

alkal- or **alkali-** [Arabic *al-qili* ashes of saltwort] [Alkali](#) ([alkaline](#)).

all- or **allo-** [Latin *alius* other, another; different, changed] Other, different, dissimilar, extraneous ([allopolyploid](#)).

alli- [Latin *allium* garlic] Pertaining to the onion genus [Allium](#).

amb- or **ambi-** [Latin *ambo* both] Both ([ambilateral](#)).

ambly- or **amblyo-** [Greek *amblyos* blunt, dull] Blunt, dull, impaired perception ([amblyopia](#), [Amblyopygi](#)).

ambul- or **ambulo-** [Latin *ambulare* to walk, move about] Denotes walking or moving about ([ambulatory](#), [Ambulocetus](#)).

amethyst- [Greek *amethystos* amethyst] Lavender, purple ([Lampornis amethystinus](#)).

amid- or **amido-** Containing the amino group ($-\text{NH}_2$); generally in combination with a acid radical ([amidine](#)).

amin- or **amino-** Containing the amino group ($-\text{NH}_2$) in combination with a non-acid radical ([aminoacetic acid](#)).

amnio- [Greek *amnion* caul] Pertaining to the [amnion](#) ([amniorrhexis](#)).

ampel- [Greek *ampelos* grapevine] Denotes vines, especially grapevines (ampelinum).

amph- or **amphi-** [Greek *amphos* around, on both sides] Around, on both sides ([amphibian](#), [amphimixis](#)).

amphor- [Greek *amphoreus* amphora] Shaped like an [amphora](#), a type of ancient Grecian urn (amphorata).

ampl- [Latin *ampliare* enlarge, augment, widen] In [taxonomic](#) names: large, ample ([Syzygium amplifolium](#)).

amplexi- [Latin *amplecti* surround, encircle, embrace, clasp] Clasping, grasping ([amplexifoliate](#)).

ampulla- [Latin *ampulla* ampulla = a small bottle used by the Romans] Denotes a bladder or flask (ampullaceous).

amygdal- [Latin *amygdalum* almond (tonsils are almond-shaped)] (1) almond(s); almond-shaped ([amygdaloid](#)); (2) tonsil ([amygdalitis](#), [amygdalotome](#))

amyl- [Latin *amylum* starch] Starch ([amylase](#)).

an- See: [a-](#)

an- or **ana-** [Greek *ana* up, on, back] (1) up, upward ([anabolic](#), [anagenesis](#)); (2) back ([anaphase](#)).

an- or **ano-** [Latin *anus* anus] Pertaining to the [anus](#) (anorectal).

ancyl- or **ancylo-** or **anchyl-** or **anchylo-** See: [ankyl-](#).

andr- or **andro-** [Greek *andros* genitive of *aner*, man] (1) of, pertaining to, or like a man or men; male ([Andrias](#), [androgen](#)); (2) in plants, pertaining to the stamen.

anem- or **anemo-** [Greek *anem* wind] Denotes wind ([anemochore](#)).

angio- [Greek *angos* vessel] Relating to blood or lymph vessels ([angiorrhesis](#)).

anglo- [Old English *Angles*, pl of *Engle*; name of the Angles who invaded England in the 5th cent.] English (anglophobe).

aniso- [[an-](#) + [iso-](#)] Unequal, not uniform ([anisogamy](#)).

ankyl- or **ankylo-** or **ancyl-** or **ancylo-** or **anchyl-** or **anchylo-** [Greek *ankylos* bent; the second sense of fusion from reference to the fused joints of crooked limbs] (1) bent, curved ([Ancylostomatidae](#)); (2) fusion, stiffness, growing together ([ankyrodactylia](#)).

ano- See: [an-](#).

ant- or **anti-** or **ante-** or **anth-** [Greek *anti-* against] (1) against; (2) opposing ([antienzyme](#)); (2) neutralizing (antidote).

ante- [Latin *ante* in front, in view; before, facing] Before, in front, forward ([antepenultimate](#)).

anter- or **antero-** [Latin *ante* in front, in view; before, facing] In front, [anterior](#) ([anteriorad](#), [anterolateral](#), [anteroposterior](#)).

anth- or **antho-** [Greek *anthos* flower] (1) flower; (2) flowerlike (anthocyanin).

anthrac- or **anthraco-** [Greek *anthrax* coal, carbuncle] (1) coal ([anthracosis](#)); (2) anthrax-related.

anthrop- or **anthropo-** [Greek *anthropos* human] Of or relating to human beings ([anthropomorphism](#)).

ap- or **aph-** or **apo-** [Greek *apo* away from, off] Away from, off, detached; separate ([apocarpous](#)).

api- [Latin *apis* bee] Bee ([apiology](#), [apiphobia](#)).

apic- or **apici-** or **apico-** [Latin *apex*, *apicis* point, top, summit; cap, crown] Tip, end, summit ([apical](#)).

apl- or **aplo-** See: [haplo-](#).

aplano- [Greek *aplano* fixed] Non-mobile (aplanospore).

append- or **appendo-** or **appendic-** or **appendico-** [Latin *appendix* appendage] Pertaining to the vermiform appendix ([appendectomy](#), [appendicitis](#)).

arab- or **arabo-** [*arabinose*; arabinose is named for gum arabic, from which it was first isolated] Arabinose (arabogalactan).

arachn- or **arachno-** [Greek *arachne* spider] (1) pertaining to or like an [arachnid](#) (arachnodactyly); (2) relating to the arachnoid membrane (arachnitis).

arch- or **archo-** [Greek *archos* anus] Denotes the [anus](#) or rectum ([archocele](#)).

archa- or **arche-** or **archeo-** [Greek *arche* beginning] Original, initial, at the beginning ([archetype](#)).

argilla- or **argilli-** or **argillo-** [Latin *argilla* clay] Clay ([argillaceous](#)).

arct- or **arcto-** [Greek *arktos* bear (the animal); the sense, north, is through the northern constellation, the Great Bear] (1) bear ([Arctodus](#)); (2) north, northern (arctic).

arteri- or **arterio-** [Greek *arteria* artery] [Artery](#) ([arteriography](#), [arteriogram](#)).

arteriol- or **arteriolo-** [*arteri-* + *-ole*] [Arteriole](#) (arteriopathy).

arthr- or **arthro-** [Greek *arthron* joint] Joint (arthritis).

as- See: [ad-](#).

asc- or **asci-** or **asco-** [Greek *askos* bag] bladder, sac, [ascus](#) ([ascospore](#)).

aster- or **astero-** or **astro-** [Greek *aster* star] star, star-shaped ([asteroidea](#), [astrobiology](#)).

asthen- or **astheno-** [Greek *asthenes* weak] Denotes weakness or loss of strength ([asthenia](#)).

at- See: [ad-](#).

atel- or **atelo-** [Greek *atelos* imperfect, defective] Imperfect, incomplete, developmental or structural defect ([atelopodia](#), [atelorachidia](#)).

ater- or **atri-** or **atro-** [Latin *ater* black, dark] Black, dark (atriceps).

atm- or **atmo-** [Greek *atmos* vapor] Air, vapor (atmosphere).

athero- [*atheroma* form Greek *athera* gruel (atheromas are filled with a substance like gruel)] Soft (atherosclerosis).

atlant- or **atlanto-** [Latin *atlant-* atlas] Pertaining to the atlas (altantad).

atri- or **atrio-** [Latin *atrium* the main room of a Roman house] Relating to an atrium, usually of a heart (atrioventricular).

attico- [Greek *attikos* upper part] Denotes the [tympanic attic](#) ([atticitis](#)).

atto- [Danish *atten* eighteen] 10^{-18} ([attomole](#)).

audio- [Latin *audire* to hear] (1) hearing ([audiology](#)); (2) sound (audiospectrometer).

aur- or **auri-** or **auro-** [Latin *aurum* gold] Gold, gold-colored (auric).

auri- or **auricul-** or **auriculo-** [Latin *auris* ear] (1) relating to the ear, earlike (*Primula auricula*); (2) relating to the [auricula](#) of the ear.

austral- or **austral-** [Latin *australis* southern] Southern ([australopithecine](#)).

aut- or **auto-** [Greek *autos* same, self] Self (autolysis, automaton).

aux- or **auxo-** [Greek *auxein* to increase] Growth, increase ([auxin](#), [auxocyte](#)).

avi- [Latin *avis* bird] Bird (aviculture).

ax- or **axo-** [Greek *axōn* axle] Axis ([axon](#)).

axill- or **axillo-** [Latin *axilla* side, armpit] Armpit ([axillobifemoral](#)).

az- or **azo-** [*a-* + Greek *zōe* life; referring to the insufficiency of nitrogen alone to sustain life] (1) containing [nitrogen](#) (2) containing the group N=N bonded to carbon on both ends (azobenzene).

bacter- or **bacterio-** Denotes bacteria ([bacteremia](#), [bactericide](#), [bacteriophage](#)).

balan- or **balano-** [Greek *balanos* acorn, glans penis] (1) pertaining to the *glans penis* or *glans clitoridis* ([balanopreputial](#)); (2) acorn, acornlike ([Balanidae](#)).

bar- or **baro-** or **bary-** [Greek *barys* heavy] Weight, heaviness, pressure ([barospirator](#), [barotaxis](#)).

bathy- (also **bath-** or **batho-**) [Greek *bathos* depth] Depth, deep ([bathypelagic](#)).

batrach- [Greek *batrachos* frog] Frog, toad ([batrachoid](#), [batrachophagous](#), [batrachotoxin](#)).

bi- or **bio-** [Greek *bios* way of life] Life, living organisms ([bioluminescence](#)).

bi- or **bis-** [Latin *bis* twice] Twice, double ([bisetose](#), [bipedal](#)).

bili- [Latin *bilis* gall, bile] Pertaining to [bile](#) ([bilirubin](#)).

blast- or **blasto-** [Greek *blastos* bud] Bud(ding), germ ([blastema](#), [blastocyst](#)).

blenn- or **blenno-** [Greek *blennos* mucus] [Mucus](#), or pertaining to mucus ([blennostatic](#)).

blatt or **blatta-** [Latin *blatta* nocturnal insect, especially: roach] In [taxonomic](#) names: nocturnal insect especially: roach ([Blattaria](#)).

blephar- or **blepharo-** (1) [Greek *blepharon* eyelid] eyelid ([blepharoclonus](#)); (2) [Greek *blepharis* eyelash] Eyelash, cilium ([blepharoplast](#)).

bothr- or **bothro-** [Greek *bothros* pit, cavity] Pit, hole, trough ([Bothriocephalus](#)).

botry- or **botryo-** [Greek *botrys* bunch of grapes] Like a bunch of grapes ([botryoid](#)).

brachi- or **brachio-** [Latin *brachium* arm] Armlike, of or relating to an arm ([brachiate](#), [brachiopod](#)).

brachy- [Greek *brachys* short] Short ([brachydactylous](#), [brachydont](#)).

brady- [Greek *bradys* slow] Slow, dull ([bradytelic](#)).

branchi- or **branchio-** [Greek *branchia* gills] [Gill\(s\)](#), [branchiae](#) ([branchial](#), [branchiate](#)).

brevi- [Latin *brevis* short, small, brief] Short, small, brief ([brevicaudate](#), [brevifoliate](#)).

bronch- or **broncho-** or **bronchi-** or **bronchio-** [Greek *bronchia* bronchial tubes] Of or relating to the [bronchi](#) ([bronchitis](#)).

bry- or **bryo-** [Greek *bryon* moss] Moss ([bryophytes](#), [bryology](#)).

bucc- or **bucco-** [Latin *bucca* mouth, cheek] Pertaining to the cheek or mouth ([buccal](#)).

burs- or **bursa-** or **burso-** [Latin *bursa* bag, purse] Denotes [bursa](#) ([bursate](#)).

cac- or **caco-** [Greek *kakos* bad, evil, pernicious] Bad, evil ([caconym](#)).

caen- or **caeno-** (1) see: [cen-](#); (2) see: [coen-](#).

calc- [Latin *calcis* genitive of *calx* Limestone, lime, chalk] [Calcium](#) ([hypercalcemia](#)).

cali- or **calo-** or **calli-** or **callo-** [Greek *kalos* beautiful] In [taxonomic](#) names: beautiful, beauty, white (*Calliandra*).

campto- or **campylo-** [Greek *kampe* to bend] Bent or curved (*Camptosaurus*).

cani- [Latin *canis* dog] Denotes dog ([canine](#)).

capill- or **capilla-** [Latin *capillus* hair] Primarily in [taxonomic](#) names: hair, hairlike (*capillaceum*).

capillar- or **capillaro-** [[capill-](#) + [-ary](#)] Capillary (capillaritis).

carcin- or **carcino-** [Greek *karkinoma* cancer] Cancer ([carcinogen](#), [carcinoma](#)).

carcinomat- or **carcinomato-** [Greek *karkinomata* cancers] [Carcinoma](#) (carcinomatophobia).

cardi- or **cardia-** or **cardio-** [Greek *cor*, *cordis* heart] Heart; heart action (cardiotomy).

carn- or **carni-** [Latin *carnis* flesh, meat, the body] Flesh, meat, the body ([carnivore](#)).

carp- or **carpo-** [Greek *karpos* fruit, wrist] (1) fruit (Carpobalsamum); (2) pertaining to the [carpus](#) (carpoptosis).

cat- or **cata-** or **cath-** [Greek *kata* down] Down, downward ([catabolism](#), [catarrhine](#), [catheter](#)).

caud- or **cauda-** or **caudi-** [Latin *cauda* tail] Tail ([caudad](#)).

caten- [Latin *catena* chain, shackles, fetters] Chain (catenoid).

caul- or **cauli-** or **caulo-** [Latin *caulis* stem] Stem, stalk ([acaulescent](#)).

cec- or **ceco-** [Latin *caecum* blind — referring to the fact that the cecum has a single outlet] [Cecum](#) (cecectomy).

celi- or **celio-** [Greek *kollia* belly] Belly, abdomen (celiocolpotomy).

cellul- or **cellulo-** [cell + [-ule](#)] Cellulose (cellulolytic).

cen- or **ceno-** or **caen-** or **caeno-** [Greek *kainos* new] Recent, new (Cenozoic Era). See also: [coen-](#).

cent- or **centi-** [Latin *centenum* one hundred] One hundredth ([centimorgan](#)).

cephal- or **cephalo-** [Greek *kephale* head] Relating to the head (cephalodynia).

cer- or **cero-** [Latin *cera* wax] Wax, earwax (ceraceous).

cerat- or **cerato-** Rare form of [kerat\(o\)-](#).

cerc- or **cercro-** [Greek *kerkos* tail] Tailed (Cercopithecidae).

cerebell- or **cerebello-** [*cerebellum* Latin diminutive of *cerebrum* brain] Cerebellum (cerebellospinal).

cerebr- or **cerebri-** or **cerebro-** [Latin *cerebrum* brain] Brain (cerebrotonia).

cervic- or **cervico-** [Latin *cervix* neck, a narrow connecting structure] (1) pertaining to the neck (cervicobrachial); (2) pertaining to the cervix uteri (cervicovesical).

cet- or **ceto-** [Latin *cetus* whale, dolphin] Whale, dolphin ([cetacea](#), [cetotolite](#)).

chaet- or **chaeto-** [Greek *chaite* hair] Hair(y), bristle, bristly ([chaetognath](#), [chaetotactic](#)).

chalc- or **chalco-** or **chalk-** or **chalko-** [Greek *chalkos* copper] [Copper](#) ([Chalcolithic](#)).

cheil- or **cheilo** Form of [chil-](#).

cheir- or **cheiro-** or **chir-** or **chiro-** [Greek *cheir* hand, paw] Pertaining to the hand ([chiragra](#), [chiroplasty](#), [chirospasm](#)).

chem- or **chemo-** (1) chemistry, or a molecule or chemical (chemoreceptor); (2) drugs (chemotherapy).

chil- or **chilo** [Greek *cheilos* lip] Lip(s) ([cheilectropion](#)).

chlor- or **chloro** [Greek *chloros* green] Green or yellow green ([chlorophyll](#), [chloroplast](#)).

choan- or **choano-** [Greek *choane* funnel] Denotes a funnel or something shaped like a funnel ([Choanoflagellate](#)).

chol- or **chole-** or **choli-** [Greek *chole* bile] Bile, gall ([cholemesis](#), [cholera](#), [cholesterol](#)).

cholecyst- or **cholecysto-** [*chol-* + *cyst-*] Referring to the gallbladder (cholecystopexy).

chondr- or **chondri-** or **chondro-** [Greek *chondros* cartilage] Cartilage or gristle (chondrosarcoma, [chondrin](#)).

chondri- or **chondrio-** [Greek *chondrion* small grain] Of, relating to, or like a grain (chondriosome).

chori- or **chorio-** [Greek *chorion* skin] (1) [chorion](#) ([chorioadenoma](#)); (2) [choroid](#) ([choriocele](#)).

chord- or **chordo-** [Greek *chordos* string] Denotes an anatomical [cord](#) ([Chordata](#)).

choroid- or **choroido-** [Greek *chorioeides* skinlike] Denotes the [choroid coat](#) of the eye (choroidocyclitis).

chrom- or **chromo-** or **chromat-** or **chromato-** [Greek *chromos* colored] (1) Color, colored (chromophil, chromatophore).

chron- or **chrono-** [Greek *chronos* time] Pertaining to time ([chronobiology](#), [chronospecies](#)).

chrys- or **chryso-** [Greek *chrysos* gold] Golden, yellow ([chrysalis](#)).

chyl- or **chylo-** [Greek *chylos* juice, chyle] Denotes [chyle](#) ([chylidrosis](#), [chylifacient](#), [chylology](#)).

cili- or **cilii-** or **cilio-** [Latin *cilium* eyelid] (1) in animals: eyelash (ciliary); (2) in plants: having minute hairlike processes (ciliatum); (3) in microorganisms or cells: having [cilia](#) (Ciliophora).

cin- or **cino-** Variant of [kin-](#).

circum- [Latin *circum* about, around, round about, near, on both sides] Around, about, surrounding (circumvallate).

cis- [Latin *cis-* on, to this, near side of] On this side, on the nearer side, nearby. Within the context of genetics, most often used in the term *cis*-acting, which means that the activity of a locus affects only the molecule of DNA where that locus resides.

cleid- or **cleido-** or **clid-** or **clido-** [Greek *kleis* key] Pertaining to the [clavicle](#) ([cleidocostal](#)).

cleist- or **cleisto-** or **clist-** or **clisto-** or **cleid-** or **cleido-** [Greek *kleistos* closed] Closed, sealed ([cleidoic](#), [cleistogamy](#)).

clin- or **clino-** or **clinico-** [Greek *kline* bed] Bed (clinic, clinician, clinostatic).

clitorid- or **clitorido-** [Latin *clitoris*] Denotes the clitoris (clitoridectomy).

cnind- or **cnindo-** [Greek *knide* nettle, sea nettle] Denotes [Cnidaria](#) or a [cnidarian](#) ([cnidocyst](#)).

co- [Latin *co-* together, with, common] With, together, mutually ([coenzyme](#), [cofactor](#)).

coccyg- or **coccygo-** [[coccyx](#)] Coccyx ([coccygodynia](#)).

cocto- [Latin *coctus* cooked] (1) altered by heat or boiling (coctoprotein); (2) at the boiling point of water (coctostable).

coel- or **coelo-** [Greek *koilos* hollow] Chamber, cavity, ventricle ([coeloblastula](#)).

coen- or **coeno-** or **caen-** or **caeno-** or **cen-** or **ceno-** [Greek *koinos* common] Common, shared (coenocyte). See also: [cen-](#).

col- Form of [co-](#) used before stems or suffixes beginning with the letter *l* (colliquation).

cole- or **coleo-** [Greek *koleos* sheath] Sheath ([Coleoptera](#)).

col- or **coli-** or **colo-** or **colon-** or **colono-** [Greek *kolon* colon] Of or pertaining to the [colon](#) (colonoscopic, coliform).

colp- or **colpo-** [Greek *kolpos* vagina] Denotes the vagina ([colpocèle](#)).

com- Form of [co-](#) used before stems or suffixes beginning with *b*, *p*, or *m*. ([commissure](#)).

con- Form of [co-](#) used before stems or suffixes beginning with letters other than *b* or *l* or *m* or *n* or *p* or *r*, when the accent is not on the first syllable of the word ([congenital](#)).

con- or **conico-** or **cono-** [Latin *conus* cone] Cone; conelike ([coniform](#), [conodont](#)).

contra- [Latin *contra* against, opposite, opposed, contrary] Against, preventing ([contraceptive](#)).

conio- [Greek *konis* dust] Denotes dust ([coniology](#)).

copr- or **copro-** [Greek *kopros* excrement] Denotes feces, excrement ([coprolite](#)).

cor- Form of [co-](#) used before stems or suffixes beginning with *r* ([correlation](#)).

cor- or **core-** or **coreo-** [Greek *kore* pupil] Pupil or iris ([corectomy](#)).

cord- or **cordo-** [Greek *chorde* cord] Denotes an anatomical [cord](#) (cordopexy)

cord- or **cordi-** or **cardo-** [Latin *cor, cordis* heart] Heart ([cordiform](#)).

corm- or **cormo-** [Greek *kormos* tree trunk] [Corm](#), trunk, stem ([cormoid](#), [cormose](#))

corn- or **corne-** or **corni-** [Latin *cornus* horn, hoof, beak, claw] Denotes a horn or horniness (corneous).

cortic- or **cortico-** [Latin *cortex* skin, outer covering] (1) the cerebral cortex (corticopeduncular); (2) any anatomical cortex (corticosteroid).

cost- or **costi-** or **costo-** [Latin *costa* rib; side, flank, back] Of or relating to the ribs, near the ribs (costalgia).

counter- [Latin *contra* against, opposite, opposed, contrary] Contrary, against, opposite, adverse (counterselection).

cox- or **coxo-** [Latin *coxa* hip (of human), haunch (of animal), hip bone] Denotes the hip or hip joint (coxitis).

crani- or **cranio-** [Greek *cranium* skull] Of or relating to the skull (craniofacial).

cry- or **cryo-** or **kry-** or **kryo-** [Greek *kryos* freezing cold] Cold, frozen ([cryobiology](#), [cryophile](#)).

crym- or **crymo-** [Greek *kryos* freezing cold] Cold, frost (crymotherapy).

crypt- or **crypto-** [Greek *kryptos* hidden] Hidden, covered, invisible (cryptorchidism, cryptozoan).

cune- or **cuneo-** [Latin *cuneus, cunei* wedge] Wedge-shaped ([cuneiform](#), [cuneate](#)).

cut- or **cuti-** or **cutane-** or **cutaneo-** [Latin *cutis* skin] Skin, integument ([cutaneous](#)), cutaneophalangeal).

cyan- or **cyano-** [Greek *kyanos* dark blue, lapis lazuli] Dark blue ([cyanobacteria](#), [cyanosis](#)).

cycl- or **cyclo-** [Greek *kyklos* circle] (1) circular or cyclical ([cyclostomate](#)); (2) of or pertaining to the eye's ciliary body ([cyclitis](#)).

cyes- or **cyesi-** or **cyesio-** [Greek *kyesis* pregnancy] Denotes pregnancy (cyesedema).

cyn- or **cyno-** [Greek *kyon* dog] Denotes dog (cynocephalous).

cyph- or **cypho-** Rare form of [kyph\(o\)-](#).

cyst- or **cysti-** or **cysto-** [Greek *kystis* bladder, sac] (1) pertaining to the gallbladder (cystocolostomy); (2) pertaining to the urinary bladder (cystoureteritis); (3) denoting the presence of cyst(s) (cystoepithelioma); (4) denoting the presence of a sac, pouch, or bladder of any kind (*Cystophora*).

cyt- or **cyto-** [Greek *kytos* hollow vessel] (1) cell ([cyturia](#)); (2) cytoplasm ([cytolysis](#)).

dacry- or **dacryo-** [Greek *dacron* tear] (1) tears ([dacryagogue](#)); (2) [lacrimal sac](#) ([dacryelcosis](#)).

dacryocyst- or **dacryocysto-** [[dacryo](#) + [cyst](#)] Denotes the [lacrimal sac](#) ([dacryocystitis](#)).

dactyl- or **dactylo-** [Greek *dactylos* finger] Finger ([dactyloid](#)).

de- [Latin *de* down from, away from, from, off] (1) from ([decubital](#)); (2) do the opposite ([decomposer](#)); (3) remove, reduce ([dehydrate](#), [deoxy-](#)).

deca- [Greek *deka* ten] Ten ([decaliter](#)).

decem- [Latin *decem* ten] Ten (December).

deci- [Greek *deka* ten] One tenth ([decimorgan](#)).

dem- or **demo-** [Greek *demos* populace] people, population ([demoid](#)).

demi- [Latin *dimidiare* to halve] Half (demilune).

dendr- or **dendro-** [Greek *dendron* tree] Denotes a tree or treelike thing ([Dendrobatidae](#), [dendrochronology](#), [dendrology](#)).

dent- or **denti-** or **dento-** [Latin *dens, dentis* tooth; tooth-like thing] Tooth ([dentary](#), [dentulous](#)).

deoxy- [*de* + *oxy-*] Containing less oxygen ([deoxyribonucleic acid](#)).

der- or **dero-** [Greek *dere* neck] Having a neck or throat (or a disease thereof) of the type indicated by the stem or suffix ([Derotremata](#)).

derm- or **derma-** or **dermo-** or **dermat-** or **dermato-** [Greek *derma* skin] Denotes skin ([dermal](#)).

desm- or **desmo-** [Greek *dein* to bind] A bond, tie, ligature ([desmosome](#)).

dextro- [Latin *dexter, dextra* right, on the right hand] To the right ([dextrocardia](#), [dextrorotatory](#), [dextroversion](#)).

di- or **dia-** or **dis-** [Greek *dis* double, twice] double, twice, two ([diploid](#), [diotic](#)).

di- or **dia-** [Greek *dia* through, by] (1) through, between (diarrhea, diatom); (2) asunder, apart ([diastasis](#), [diastole](#)); (3) completely ([diagnosis](#)).

di- or **dif-** or **dis-** [Latin *de* down from, away from, from, off] Apart, separation, taking apart ([dissect](#)).

didym- or **didymo-** [Greek *didymos* twin, testis] (1) testis (didymitis); (2) twin (didymus).

dipl- or **dipla-** or **diplo-** [Greek *diploos* twofold, double] Double ([diploblastic](#), [diploid](#), [diplophase](#), [diplotene](#)).

dis- [Latin *de* down from, away from, from, off] (1) negative, not, opposite (disequilibrium); (2) free of, undo (disinfect).

dodec- or **dodeca-** [Greek *dyodeka* twelve] Twelve ([dodecandrous](#)).

dors- or **dorsi-** or **orso-** [Latin *dorsum* back] Pertaining to the back, at the back, in back (dorsolateral).

dry- or **dryo-** [Greek *drys* tree, oak] Tree, oak ([dryopitheicine](#)).

dy- or **dyo-** [Greek *dyo* two] Two, a pair, in pairs (dyad).

dynam- or **dynamo-** [Greek *dynamis* power] Denotes power (dynamometer).

dys- [Greek *dys-* bad, abnormal, difficult, defective] (1) abnormal ([dysplasia](#)); (2) impaired ([dysneuria](#)); (3) difficult ([dyspnea](#)); (4) bad ([dyspepsia](#), dysentery).

e- [Latin *e-* out of, from] (1) out (epilation); (2) lacking, not ([ecaudate](#)).

ec- [Latin *ex* = Greek *ek* out of, from] Out, out of ([eczema](#)).

ec- or **eco-** or **oec-** or **oeco-** or **oiko-** [Greek *oikos* habitation] (1) habitation; (2) relating to the environment ([ecology](#)).

echin- or **echino-** [Greek *echinos* hedgehog or sea urchin] Spiny, pointed ([echinate](#)).

echo- [Greek *echo* echo] Denotes repetition or echo ([echolalia](#), [echopraxia](#), [echolocation](#)).

ect- or **ecto-** [Greek *ecto* outside] Outside, outer ([ectotherm](#), [ectopia](#), [ectopic](#), [ectopotomy](#), [ectotoxemia](#)).

ef- [Latin *ex* out of, from] Out, away ([efferent](#)). Before roots and suffixes beginning with *f* the prefix *ex-* becomes *ef-*.

elaeo- or **elaio-** or **eleo-** [Greek *elaion* oil] Denotes oil or oiliness (*Elaeocarpus* = a [genus](#) of evergreen plants with oily fruit).

elast- or **elasto-** [Greek *elastikos* elastic] Elastic ([elastin](#)).

eleuther- or **eleuthero-** [Greek *eleutheros* free] Free ([Eleutherodactylus](#)).

elytr- or **elytro-** [Greek *elytron* vagina] Vagina ([elytritis](#), [elytroptosis](#), [elytostenosis](#)).

eme- or **emet-** or **emeto-** [Greek *emein* to vomit] Vomiting (emetology).

emme- or **emmen-** or **emmenio-** or **emmeno-** [Greek *emmena* menses] Menses (emmenagogue).

em- or **en-** [Latin *im-, in-*] (1) in, into, within, inside (empyema); (2) to become ([encyst](#)).

en- or **eno-** See: [oen-](#)).

encephal- or **encephalo-** [Greek *enkephalos* brain] Brain, having to do with the brain ([encephalitis](#)).

end- or **endo-** or **ento-** [Greek *endon* within] Within, inside ([endotherm](#)).

enter- or **entero-** [Greek *enteron* intestine] Relating to the [intestines](#) ([enteritis](#), [enterology](#), [enteropathy](#), [enterorrhaphy](#), [enterorrhexis](#)).

entom- or **entomo-** [Greek *entomon* insect] Insect(s) ([entomology](#), [entomophagous](#)).

eo- [Greek *eos* dawn] Denotes dawn; can mean (1) early like the dawn ([Eocene](#)); or (2) rose-colored like the dawn ([eosin](#)).

ep- or **eph-** or **epi-** [Greek *epi* upon] Upon ([epidermis](#); [epiglottis](#); [epiphysis](#)).

ependym- or **ependymo-** [Greek *ependyma* wrap] Denotes the [ependyma](#) ([ependymitis](#)).

epididym- or **epididymo-** [[epi-](#) + [didym-](#)] Denotes the [epididymis](#) ([epidydymoorchitis](#)).

epilepto- [Latin *epilepsia*] [Epilepsy](#) (epileptology).

episio- [Greek *episeion* pudenda] Vulva (episioplasty).

equi- [Latin *aequus* level, even, equal, like] Equal, alike (equicaloric).

erg- or **ergo-** [Greek *ergon* work] Work (ergometer).

erythr- or **erythro-** [Greek *erythros* red] Red ([erythema](#), [erythrocyte](#)).

esophag- or **esophago-** (British: **oesophago-**) [Greek *oisophagos* esophagus] [Esophagus](#) ([esophagostenosis](#)).

esthesi- or **esthesio-** (British: **aesthesi-** or **aesthesio-**) [Greek *aisthesis* sensation, feeling] Denotes sensation ([esthesiology](#), [esthesiometry](#), [esthesiophysiology](#)).

eth- or **etho-** (1) ether; (2) ethyl.

ethmo- [Greek *ethmos* sieve] (1) sieve ([ethmoid](#)); (2) [ethmoid bone](#) ([ethmomaxillary](#)).

ethn- or **ethno-** [Greek *ethnos* nation] Denotes race or nation (ethnology).

etio- (British: **aetio-**) [Greek *aetia* cause] (1) cause ([etiology](#)); (2) created by the breaking down of the chemical compound specified by the stem (etioporphyrin).

eu- [Greek *eus* good] True, pure, well ([eugenics](#)).

eury- [Greek *eury*s wide] Wide ([eurybathic](#), [euryhaline](#), [eurypterid](#), [eurythermal](#), [eurytopic](#)).

ex- OR **exo-** [Latin *ex* out of, from, because of, as a result of] Out of, outside of, from, because, external ([excision](#), exosepsis).

exa- [prefix in International System of Units] 10^{18} (exaFLOPS).

excit- or **excito-** [Latin *excitare* to excite] Stimulating (excitomuscular).

exter- OR **extero-** [Latin *exterus* outer, external, outward, far, foreign] External (exteroceptor).

extra- [Latin *extra* outside of, beyond, beside, except] On the outside, beyond (extradural).

faci- or **facio-** [from Latin *facies* face] Denotes the [face](#) ([faciocervical](#), [faciolingual](#), [facioplasty](#)).

fauc- [from Latin *fauces* pharynx] Denotes the [fauces](#) ([faucitis](#)).

febri- [from Latin *febris* fever] Fever ([febricity](#), [febrifuge](#), [febrile](#)).

feli- [from Latin *felis* cat] Cat ([Felidae](#)).

femto- [from Danish *femten* fifteen] 10^{-15} ([femtoliter](#)).

ferr- or **ferre-** or **ferro-** [from Latin *ferrum* iron] Containing iron ([ferredoxin](#)).

feti- or **feto-** or **foeti-** or **foeto-** [from Latin *fetus* offspring, young] Denotes the [fetus](#) ([fetotoxic](#)).

fibulo- [from Latin *fibula* clasp, brooch] Of or pertaining to the [fibula](#) ([fibulocalcaneal](#)).

fil- or **fili-** [from Latin *filum* thread] Denotes filament(s), thread(s) or something threadlike ([filiferous](#), [filiform](#)).

filic- [from Latin *filix*, *filicis* fern, bracken] Pertaining to ferns; used in [taxonomy](#) (filicifolium).

flav- or **flavo-** [from Latin *flavus* yellow, golden] Yellow, golden (flavobacteria).

fluor- or **fluori-** or **fluoro-** [from *fluorine*] (1) [fluorine](#) (2) [fluorescent](#).

fore- [from Old English *fore-* earlier, in front] Before, front, in front of; often used in English names of body parts (foreleg, forearm, forehead, foreskin).

front- or **fronto-** [from Latin *frons*, *frontis* forehead, face, front, fore part] (1) anterior (frontal lobe); (2) of or pertaining to the forehead or frontal bone ([frontoparietal](#)).

galact- or **galacto-** [from Greek *gala, galact-* milk] Milk ([galactose](#)).

gam- or **gamo-** [from Greek *gamia* marriage] (1) united, joined ([gamopetalous](#), [gamophyllous](#)); (2) sexual, sexually ([gamete](#), [gamone](#)).

gamet- or **gameto-** [from Greek *gamia* marriage] [Gamete](#) ([gametangium](#)).

gaster- or **gastr-** or **gastro-** [from Greek *gaster* belly] Stomach, belly ([gastroenteritis](#), [Gastropoda](#), [gastroenteritis](#), [gastric](#), [gastrolith](#)).

ge- or **geo-** [from Greek *ge* earth, land] Earth ([geobiology](#)).

gen- or **geno-** [from Greek *gennan* to produce] Gene ([genotype](#)).

genu- [from Latin *genu* knee] Denotes the knee ([genucubital](#)).

giga- [prefix in International System of Units] billion (10⁹) ([gigabase](#)).

gingiv- or **gingivo-** [from Latin *gingivae* gums] Denotes the gums ([gingivoglossitis](#)).

glauc- or **glauco-** [from Latin *glaucus* bluish gray] (1) pale yellow-green (2) light bluish gray ([Glaucium](#), glaucoma).

gloss- or **glosso-** [from Greek *glossa* tongue] Relating to the tongue ([glossalgia](#), [glossodynia](#)).

glott- or **glotto-** [from Greek *glottis, glossa* tongue] (1) pertaining to the [glottis](#); (2) pertaining to the tongue ([glottitis](#)).

glyc- or **glyco-** [from Greek *glykys* sweet] In the names of compounds, indicates the the presence of glycerine or a like substance (glyceride).

gnath- or **gnatho-** [from Greek *genys* jaw, cheek] Denotes jaw (gnathochilarium).

gon- or **gono-** [from Greek *gonos* genitals, seed, offspring, procreation] (1) sexual ([gonads](#), gonorrhoea); (2) generative; (3) semen ([gonopoietic](#), [gonium](#)).

gymn- or **gymno-** [from Greek *gymnos* naked] Naked, uncovered ([gymnosperm](#), gymnophobia).

gyn- or **gyno-** or **gynec-** or **gyneco-** (British spellings: **gynaec-**, **gynaeco-**) [from Greek *gyne* woman] Woman, relating to women ([gynecology](#)); (2) female reproductive organ: ovary, pistil ([gynoecium](#))

haem- or **haema-** or **haemo-** See: [hem-](#).

haemat- or **haemato-** See: [hem-](#).

hallucin- or **hallucino-** [Latin *allucinari* to prate, to dream] Denotes false perception ([hallucinogen](#)).

hapl- or **haplo-** (also **apl-** or **aplo-**) [Greek *haploides* single] (1) single, simple ([haploid](#)); (2) denoting the haploid condition ([haplotype](#)).

hect- or **hecto-** [Greek *hekaton* a hundred] A hundred — used in metric measure ([hectare](#), [hectoliter](#)).

hedy- or **hedys-** [Greek *hedys* sweet] In [taxonomic](#) names: Sweet ([Hedysarum](#)).

heli- or **helio-** [Greek *helios* sun] Denotes the sun, or sunlight ([heliotropism](#)).

helic- or **helico-** [Greek *helix* spiral] Helix (helicase).

helminth- or **helmintho-** [Greek *hēlmis* parasitic worm] Denotes parasitic worms, especially [tapeworms](#) and flatworms ([helminthiasis](#), [Platyhelminthes](#)).

hem- or **heme-** or **hemi-** or **hemo-** or **hemat-** or **hemato-** (British spellings: **haem-** or **haemo-** or **haemat-** or **haemato-**) [Greek *aima* blood] Denotes blood ([hematophagous](#), [hemoclasia](#), [hemoglobin](#), [hemoptysis](#), [hemotoxin](#)).

hemi- [Greek *hemi-* half-] Half ([hemizygote](#)).

hendec- See: [undec-](#).

hepa- or **hepat-** or **hepato-** [Greek *epar* liver] Liver ([hepatitis](#), [hepatomegaly](#), [hepatorrhesis](#)).

herpet- or **herpeto-** [Greek *herpetos* crawling, creeping] (1) denotes reptile(s) (*herpetology*); (2) denotes herpes ([herpetic](#)).

hetero- [Greek *eteros* other] Other; indicating dissimilarity ([heterosporous](#), [heterotroph](#), [heterozygote](#)).

hidr- or **hidro-** [Greek *idros* sweat] Denotes sweat ([hidradenoma](#), [hidroschisis](#)).

hist- or **histo-** or **histi-** or **histio-** [Greek *istos* tissue] Denotes tissue ([histamine](#), [histology](#), [histotome](#), [histotomy](#)).

hol- or **holo-** [Greek *ilos* whole] Complete, whole, unsegmented ([holarctic](#), [holometabolous](#)).

hom- or **homo-** or **homeo-** [Greek *homos* same] Same, similar ([homogametic](#), [homolog](#), [homotaxis](#), [homozygote](#)).

humer- or **humero-** [Latin *humerus* upper arm, shoulder] Denotes the [humerus](#) ([humeroulnar](#)).

hyal- or **hyalo-** [Greek *yalos* glass] (1) transparent (*hyaline*); (2) pertaining to the vitreous humor ([hyaloiditis](#)).

hydr- or **hydra-** or **hydro-** [Greek *ydor* water] (1) relating to water (hydrocephalic); (2) containing hydrogen ([hydrocarbon](#)).

hyo- [Greek *yooides* U-shaped — the hyoid is U-shaped] Pertaining to the hyoid bone ([hyoepiglottic](#)).

hyp- or **hyp-** or **hypo-** [Greek *ypo* under] Under, beneath, low ([hypochondriac](#), [hypochromia](#), [hypogeal](#), [hypoxanthine](#)).

hyper- [Greek *yper* above] Over, above, beyond ([hypercalcemia](#), [hyperglycemia](#), [hyperosmotic](#), [hyperostosis](#), [hyperphoria](#), [hypertension](#)).

hyps- or **hypso-** [Greek *ypsi* high] Height, elevation (hypodont).

hyster- or **hystero-** [Greek *ystera* uterus] Denotes the [uterus](#) ([hysterectomy](#), [hysterorrhexis](#), [hysterotrismus](#)).

iatr- or **iatro-** [Greek *iatros* physician] Pertaining to medicine or physicians ([iatic](#), [iatrology](#)).

ichn- or **ichno-** [Greek *ichnos* track, trace, footprint] Denotes a footprint, trace, or track of an organism ([ichnite](#), [ichnology](#)).

ichthy- or **ichthyo-** [Greek *ichthys* fish] Fish or fishlike ([ichthyic](#), [ichthyology](#)).

icos- or **icosa-** or **icoso-** [Greek *eikosi* twenty] Twenty (icosahedron).

icter- or **ictero-** [Greek *icteros* jaundice] [Jaundice](#), jaundicelike, yellow ([icterohematuria](#), [icteritious](#)).

idio- [Greek *idios* individual] Specific to a particular individual, organ or tissue (idioretinal).

ile- or **ileo-** [Latin *ileum*, from Greek *eilein* to twist] Ileum ([ileocecal valve](#)).

im- or **in-** [Latin *im-*, *in-*] (1) in, into, inward (*incise*); (2) not (impotent, incontinence); (3) to cause to become (impregnate).

immun- or **immuno-** [Latin *immunis* exempt, immune] immune, safe; immunity, conferring immunity ([immunotherapy](#)).

infra- [Latin *infra* below, on the under side, lower than, further along; to the south] Below, lower than ([infraorbital](#), [infraclax](#)).

inter- [Latin *inter* between, among, during] Between, among, during (interleukin).

intra- or **intro-** [Latin *intra*, *intro-* within, inside, during, under] Among, within, inside, during ([intramuscular](#), [introgression](#)).

iod- or **iodo-** Denotes iodine (iodophilia).

irid- or **irido-** [Greek *iris*, *irid-* iris] Pertaining to the iris ([irideremia](#)).

ischio- [Greek *ischion* hip] Pertaining to the ischium (ischiopubiotomy).

ischo- [Greek *ischein* to restrain] Denotes suppression or restraint (ischochymia).

iso- [Greek *isos* equal] Equal (isopathy).

japon- Refers to Japan ([Andrias japonicus](#)).

jav- or **java-** Refers to Java (*Javanthropus*).

jejun- or **jejuno-** [Latin *jejunum* fasting, hungry] Pertaining to the jejunum (jejunectomy).

juba- [Latin *juba* mane, crest (of a helmet)] (1) crested (*Neochen jubata*, *Ptarmus jubatus*) (2) maned ([Acinonyx jubatus](#), *Chrysocyon jubatus*).

juxta- [Latin *juxta* near, next to] Near, alongside (juxtapyloric).

karyo- [Greek *karya* nut, kernel] Nucleus, kernel, nut ([karyotype](#)).

kata- or **kath-** Rare variant spellings of [cat-](#).

kerat- or **kerato-** [Greek *keras* horn] (1) horn, horny ([keratin](#)); (2) cornea ([keratoconjunctivitis](#)).

kin- or **kine-** or **kino-** [Greek *kinesis* movement] Denotes movement or action. ([kinocilium](#)).

kinesi- or **kinesio-** [Greek *kinesis* movement] Movement, motion ([kinesialgia](#), [kinesiology](#)).

kinet- or **kineto-** [Greek *kinesis* movement] Movement, motion ([kinetochore](#)).

kolp- Variant spelling of [colp-](#).

koly- [Greek *kolyo* to hinder, prevent] Denotes inhibition or hindrance ([kolypeptic](#)).

konio- [Greek *konios* dusty] Denotes dust ([koniology](#), [koniometer](#)).

kry- or **kryo** Rare variant spelling of [cry-](#).

krypt- or **krypto-** [Greek *kryptos* hidden, secret] Hidden, covered, invisible (*Kryptopterus* = a genus of mostly transparent catfish).

kyo- [Greek *kyesis* conception, pregnancy] Denotes pregnancy ([kyogenic](#)).

kyph- or **kypho-** [Greek *kyphos* bent forwards, hunchbacked, stooping] Humped, hunchbacked ([kyphosis](#)).

kyt- Variant spelling of [cyt-](#).

labi- or **labio-** [Latin *labium* lip] Denotes lip ([labiate](#)).

lacrim- or **lacrimo-** or **lachrym-** or **lachrymo-** [Latin *lacrima* tear] Relating to tears or the tear duct (lachrymiform, lacrimotomy).

lact- [Latin *lacte, lactis* milk] (1) milk ([lactose](#)); (2) lactic acid ([lactate](#)).

lacun- [Latin *lacuna* hollow, pit, cavity] Hole, pit, cavity (lacunaria).

laev- or **laevo-** Alternative spelling of [lev-](#).

lag- or **lago-** [Greek *lagos* hare] Hare ([lagomorph](#)).

lagen- [Latin *lagena* flask, bottle] Denotes a bottle ([lageniform](#)).

lan- or **lani-** or **lano-** [Latin *lana* wool] Denotes wool (lanolin, lanosus).

laparo- [Greek *lapara* abdomen, flank] Abdomen (laparoscopy). Particularly denotes operations involving an incision into the abdomen.

laryng- or **laryngo-** [Greek *larynx* [larynx](#)] Denotes the larynx ([laryngopharyngitis](#), [laryngoscope](#)).

lasi- [Greek *lasios* shaggy, wooly] Shaggy ([Lasiurus](#) = a genus of hairy-tailed bats).

later- or **lateri-** or **latero-** [Latin *latus, lateris* side, flank] Side, flank ([laterodorsal](#)).

lati- [Latin *latus, lata, latum* wide, broad; spacious] Wide, broad ([latifoliate](#)).

laur- or **lauro-** [Latin *laurus* bay-tree, laurel] (1) denotes laurel (lauric); (2) derived from, or allied to lauric acid (lauramide)

leio- or **lio-** [Greek *leios* smooth] Smooth ([leiomyoma](#)).

lenti- [Latin *lenticula* lentil, lens-shaped vessel] Denotes a lens ([lenticform](#)).

leon- [Latin *leo, leonis* lion] Lion ([Leonotis](#) = a genus of plants with the common name Lion's ear).

lepid- or **lepido-** [Greek *lepis* flake, scale] Denotes flakes or scales (lepidophyte).

lepr- [Latin *lepra, leprae* leprosy] [Leprosy](#) ([leprology](#)).

lept- or **lepto-** [Greek *leptos* fine, small, thin, weak, delicate] Denotes fine, small, thin, weak ([leptotene](#)).

leuc- or **leuco-** or **leuk-** or **leuko-** [Greek *leukos* light, bright, clear, white] White, colorless ([leukocyte](#)).

lev- or **levo-** or **laev-** or **laevo-** [Latin *laevus* left, on the left hand] Left, toward the left ([levorotatory](#), [levoversion](#)).

lien- or **lieno-** [Latin *lien, lienis* spleen] Denotes the spleen ([lienitis](#), [lienoccele](#), [lienopancreatic](#), [lienopathy](#)).

lign- or **ligni-** or **ligno-** [Latin *lignum, ligni* wood, timber, firewood] Wood or lignin, which is a component of wood ([lignification](#)).

ligul- [Latin *lingula* small tongue, small strap] Tongue- or strap-shaped ([ligulate](#)).

limn- or **limni-** or **limno-** [Greek *limne* shallow lake] Freshwater lakes/ponds ([limnology](#), [limnoplankton](#)).

lingu- or **lingua-** or **lingui-** or **linguo-** [Latin *lingula* tongue] Relating to the tongue, tongue-like ([linguiform](#), [lingual](#)).

lip- or **lipo-** [Greek *liparos* greasy, fatty, oily] Fat, fatty, fatty tissue ([lipoblast](#), [lipocyte](#), [liposarcoma](#), [liposome](#)).

lith- or **litho-** [Greek *lithos* stone] Stone (lithotripsy).

loch- or **locho-** or **lochio-** [Greek *locheyo* to bear, bring forth] Pertaining to lochia (lochiometritis).

log- or **logo-** [Greek *logos* explanation, law, theory, reasoning, speech] Denotes word, thought, or speech (logomania).

loma- [Greek *loma* fringe] Hem, fringe ([Lomatium](#)).

lonch- or **loncho-** [Greek *lonche* lance, spearhead] Denotes lance ([Arnica lonchophylla](#)).

longi- [Latin *longus* long, tall, far] Long (longifolia).

loph- [Greek *lophos* crest] Denotes a crest ([Lophodytes](#)).

lox- or **loxo-** [Latin *loxos* oblique] Slanting ([Loxodonta](#)).

lucid- [Latin *lucidus* shining, clear, bright] Light, shining, clear ([luciferin](#)).

ludovici- In [taxonomic](#) names: refers to Louis or Louisiana ([Artemisia ludoviciana](#)).

lumbo- [Latin *lumbus* [loins](#)] Denotes the loins ([lumbocostal](#)).

lun- or **luna-** [Latin *luna, lunae* moon] Refers to the moon ([lunate](#)).

lusitan- Refers to Portugal, which was the ancient Roman province of Lusitania ([Lusitanosaurus](#)).

luteo- [Latin *luteus* yellow] Yellow, especially light yellow, greenish yellow ([Luteovirus](#)).

lyc- or **lyco-** [Greek *lykos* wolf] Wolf ([Lycopodiophyta](#)).

lymph- or **lympho-** or **lymphangi-** or **lymphangio** or **lymphatic** or **lymphato-** or **lymphoid-** [Latin *lympa* water, water nymph] Denotes lymph, lymphatic tissue, or the [lymphatic system](#) ([lymphectasia](#), [lymphocyte](#), [lymphoidectomy](#)).

lyr- [Latin *lyra* lyre] Lyre ([lyriform](#)).

lys- or **lyso-** [Greek *lysis* loosing, breaking up, parting, releasing] Denotes [lysis](#) ([lysogeny](#), [lysosome](#)).

macro- [Greek *makros* long, tall, high, large] Large, long, big ([macroevolution](#), [macrophage](#)).

mal- or **male-** [Latin *mal* bad, evil, wicked; ugly] Bad(ly), evil(ly), poor(ly), abnormal(ly) (malpresentation).

mann- or **manno-** [from *mannose*] Pertaining to, involving, or structured like [mannose](#) ([mannosamine](#)).

mast- or **masto-** [Greek *mastos* breast, udder] Breast, udder ([mastology](#)).

medi- or **medio-** [Latin *medius* middle, middle of, mid, neutral, ordinary] In the middle ([mediocarpal](#)).

medull- or **medullo-** [Latin *medulla* marrow, innermost part] Denotes [marrow](#) (medullitis).

meg- or **mega-** or **megal-** or **megalo-** [Greek *megas*, *megale* big, great, full-grown, vast, high] (1) great, large ([megadont](#), [megalcephaly](#)); (2) one million (megamole).

melan- or **melano-** [Greek *melas*, *melan-* dark, black, murky] Black, dark ([melanosome](#)).

mening- or **meningio-** [Greek *meninx* membrane] Relating to the [meninges](#) ([meningitis](#)).

mer- or **mero-** [Greek *meros* share, portion, part] Part, partial, segmented ([merozoite](#)).

mero- [Greek *meros* thigh, femur] Denotes the thigh (merocoxalgia).

mes- or **meso-** [Greek *mesos* middle, in the middle] (1) middle ([mesoderm](#), [Mesozoic](#)); (2) [mesentery](#) ([mesoileum](#)).

met- or **meta-** or **meto-** [Greek *meta* among, between, after, later, along with] (1) occurring after, succeeding (metagenesis); (2) beyond (metacarpus); (3) behind, posterior (metencephalon); (4) later, more advanced (Metazoa); (5) across (metoxenous); (5) chemistry: in meta-substitution, the substituents occupy positions 1 and 3 ([see explanatory diagram →](#)).

metall- or **metallo-** [Latin *metallum* metal] Denotes metal(s) (metallophobia).

metop- or **metopo-** [Greek *metopon* brow, forehead] Forehead (metopodynia).

metr- or **metra-** or **metro-** [Greek *metra* uterus] Relating to the uterus, uterine (metritis, metrocarcinoma).

micro- [Greek *mikros* small] (1) small; (2) one millionth (microliter).

milli- [Latin *mille* thousand] One thousandth ([milliliter](#)).

mid- [from Old English *midd* middle] Middle, in the middle (midlands, mid-incisor).

milli- [Latin *mille* thousand] One thousandth ([milliliter](#)).

mi- or **mio-** or **meio-** [Greek *meion* less] Less, smaller, reduction ([Miocene](#), [meiosis](#)).

mit- or **mito-** [Greek *mitos* thread] (1) thread ([mitochondrion](#), [mitosis](#)) (2) mitosis ([mitoinhibitory](#)).

mis- [from Old English *mis-*] Incorrect(ly), improper(ly) (misclassification).

mis- or **miso-** [Greek *misos* hatred] Hatred (misogynist).

mon- or **mono-** [Greek *monos* alone, solitary] Single ([monocotyledon](#), [monocyte](#), [monoecious](#), [monosaccharides](#), [monosomy](#), [monotreme](#)).

morph- or **morpho-** [Greek *morphe* form, shape, kind, sort] Form, shape, type, structure ([morphology](#)).

muc- or **muco-** [Latin *mucus* mucus, snot] Pertaining to [mucus](#) or [mucous membrane](#) ([mucigen](#)).

multi- [Latin *multus* many] Many ([multiplexing](#)).

muscul- or **musculo-** [Latin *musculus* muscle] Pertaining to muscle (musculocutaneous).

my- or **myo-** [Greek *myon* muscle] Of or relating to muscle (myoatrophy, [myalgia](#)).

myc- or **myco-** [Greek *mykes* mushroom] [Fungus](#), mushroom ([Mycobacterium](#), [mycology](#), [mycosis](#)).

myel- or **myelo-** [Greek *myelos* marrow] (1) of or relating to [marrow](#) ([myelocyte](#)); (2) relating to the spinal cord ([myelodysplasia](#)).

myri- or **myria-** or **myrio-** [Greek *myrioi* ten thousand] Countless, extremely numerous (myriapod).

myria- [Greek *myrioi* ten thousand] Ten thousand (myriameter).

myx- or **myxo-** [Greek *myxa* mucus] Of or relating to [mucus](#) or slime (myxobacterium).

nan- or **nano-** or **nann-** or **nanno-** [Latin *nanus* Greek *nannos* dwarf] Dwarf ([Nannippus](#)).

nano- [Latin *nanus* dwarf] Metric prefix: one billionth (10^{-9}) ([nanoliter](#), [nanometer](#), [nanosecond](#)).

nas- or **naso-** [Latin *nasus, nasi* nose] Nose ([nasitis](#), [nasopalatine](#), [nasopharynx](#)).

necr- or **necro-** [Greek *nekros* dead, dying person, corpse] Of or relating to death or dead things ([necrosis](#)).

nem- or **nema-** or **nemo-** or **nemat-** or **nemato-** [Greek *nema, nemata* thread] Thread ([nematode](#), [nematoid](#)).

neo- [Greek *neo-* new-] New ([neoplasm](#)).

nephr- or **nephra-** or **nephro-** [Greek *nephros* kidney] Kidney, kidney-shaped ([nephric](#), [nephritis](#)).

neur- or **neuri-** or **neuro-** [Greek *neuron* sinew, tendon] Denotes nerve(s), nervous tissue, or the nervous system ([neuralgia](#)).

nerv- or **nervi-** or **nervo-** [Latin *nervus* sinew, muscle, nerve; cord, string] Denotes nerve(s), nervous tissue, or the nervous system ([nervomuscular](#)).

nid- or **nidi-** or **nido-** [Latin *nidus, nidi* nest] Denotes nest ([nidology](#), [nidifugous](#)).

nigr- [Latin *niger, nigra, nigrum* black, dark] Black, dark ([nigricans](#))

nipho- [Greek *nipha* snow] Denotes snow (used in [taxonomic](#) names) ([Microstrobos niphophilus](#))

nit- or **nitro-** [Latin *nitrum* Greek *nitron* natron] Nitrogen, nitrate ([Nitrobacter](#)).

niv- [Latin *nix, nivis* snow] Snow ([nival](#))

noc- or **nocī-** [Latin *nocere* harm, hurt; injure] To harm, harmful, injury ([nociceptor](#)).

noct- or **nocti-** or **nocto-** [Latin *nox, noctis* night] Night ([nocturnal](#)).

nod- or **nodi-** or **nodo-** [Latin *nodus, nodi* node, knot] Having, being, or resembling a node or [nodes](#) ([nodule](#)).

non- [Latin *non-*] Not (nonchitinous).

nona- [Latin *nonus* ninth] Nine ([nonahydrate](#)).

norm- or **normo-** [Latin *normalis* forming a right angle] Normal, usual ([normocytosis](#)).

noso- [Greek *nosos* disease] Denotes disease ([nosocomial](#), [nosography](#)).

not- or **noto-** [Greek *notos* south wind, south] South, southern (used in [taxonomic](#) names, particularly of Australian organisms) ([Notomys](#)).

not- or **noto-** [Greek *notos* back] Back, at the back ([notochord](#)).

noth- or **notho-** [Greek *nothos* bastard, baseborn, spurious] False, bastard, hybrid (nothosaur).

nov- or **ново-** [Latin *novus, nova, novum* new, fresh, young, unusual] New ([novobiocin](#)).

novem- [Latin *novem* nine] nine (November).

nuc- [Latin *nux, nucis* nut] Nut ([nucellus](#), [nuciform](#)).

nucle- or **nucleo-** [Latin *nucleus* inside of a nut, nucleus] Nucleus ([nucleolus](#), [nucleoplasm](#), [nucleosome](#), [nucleotide](#)).

nudi- [Latin *nudus, nuda, nudum* naked, bare, stripped] Naked, uncovered ([nudibranch](#)).

numm- [Latin *nummus, nummi* coin, cash, money] Coin ([nummiform](#), [nummular](#)).

nut- [Latin *nutus* nod, command] Refers to nodding ([nutation](#)).

nyct- or **nycti-** or **nycto-** [Greek *nux, nyctos* night] Night, nighttime ([nyctalgia](#), [nycturia](#)).

oari- or **oario-** See: [ovari\(o\)-](#).

ob- [Latin *ob* toward, against, in the way of] Usually denotes opposition (obstruct).

oct- or **octa-** or **octav-** or **octavo-** or **octo-** [Latin *octo, octavus* eight] Eight ([octoploid](#), [octipara](#)).

ocul- or **oculo-** [Latin *oculus* eye] Denotes the eye ([oculomycosis](#), [oculomotorius](#), [oculonasal](#), [oculozygomatic](#)).

odont- or **odonto-** [Greek *odous, odont-* tooth] Denotes a tooth or teeth ([odontogenesis](#), [odontology](#), [odontopathy](#)).

odyn- or **odyno-** [Greek *odyne* pain] Denotes pain ([odynacsis](#), [odynometer](#)).

oec- or **oeco-** See: [ec\(o\)-](#)

oen- or **oeno-** (also **en-** or **eno-**) [Greek *oinos* wine] Denotes wine or something wine-colored ([enology](#), [Oenochrominae](#), [Oenomys](#))

oesophag- or **oesophago-** See: [esophag\(o\)-](#)

oiko- See: [ec\(o\)-](#)

olea- [Latin *olea* oil, olive, olive tree] oil ([oleaginous](#)).

olfact- [Latin *olfacere* to smell] Denotes smell ([olfactive](#), [olfactology](#), [olfactory](#)).

olig- or **oligo-** [Greek *oligos* few, little, scanty, small] A few, a little, small ([Oligocene](#), [oligosaccharide](#)).

om- or **omo-** [Greek *omos* ulna, *omia* shoulder] Denotes the shoulder ([omitis](#), [omodynia](#)).

ombro- [Greek *ombros* rain] Rain ([ombrology](#), [ombrophile](#), [ombrophilous](#)).

oment- or **omento-** [from omentum] Omentum (omentotomy).

omni- [from *omnis* every, all] All ([omnivorous](#)).

omphal- or **omphalo-** [Greek *omphalos* navel, umbilical cord] (1) navel ([omphalitis](#)); (2) the umbilicus, or umbilical cord ([omphalos](#)).

onco- [Greek *onkos* bulk, mass] Tumor, cancer, tumor causing ([oncogene](#), [oncology](#)).

onc- or **onco-** or **onch-** or **oncho-** or **onci-** [Greek *onkinos* hook] Hook, hooklike, barbed ([onchium](#), [oncosphere](#)).
Compare: [unci-](#).

ont- or **onto-** [Greek *on* being (pres. participle of *einein*)] Being, living thing ([ontogeny](#)).

onych- or **onycho-** or **onyx-** [Greek *onyx* talon, claw] Condition of the fingernails or toenails of the type indicated by the stem or suffix ([onycholysis](#), [onychoma](#), [onychosis](#), [onyxis](#)).

oo- [Greek *oion* egg] Denotes an egg or the primordial cell that develops into an ovule ([oocyte](#), [oogamous](#), [oogenesis](#)).

oophor- or **oophoro-** [[oo-](#) + [-phor](#)] Denotes an ovary ([oophorocystosis](#), [oophorectomy](#)).

ophthalm- or **ophthalmo-** [Greek *ophthalmos* eye] Eye, eyeball, of or affecting the eyes (ophthalmoscope).

opto- or **optic-** or **optico-** [Greek *optikos* of or for sight] Denotes vision or eye (optostriate).

or- or **oro-** [Latin *os*, *oris* mouth] Mouth ([orad](#), [oral](#), [oropharynx](#)).

orchid- or **orchido-** or **orcheo-** or **orchio-** [Greek *orchis* testicle] Testicle ([orchidectomy](#), [orchiodynia](#)).

ore- or **oreo-** or **oro-** [Greek *oros* mountain] Mountain ([orogeny](#)).

orexi- [Greek *orexis* desire, appetite] Appetite ([orexigenic](#)).

ornith- or **ornitho-** [Greek *ornis* bird] Bird ([ornithophily](#), [ornithology](#)).

ortho- [Greek *orthos* straight, correct, true, just] (1) straight ([Orthoptera](#)); (2) normal, average ([orthopedic](#)); (3) at a right angle ([orthopnea](#)); (4) chemistry: in ortho-substitution, the substituents occupy positions 1 and 2 ([see explanatory diagram>>](#)).

os- [Latin *os*, *oris* mouth] Mouth (oscedo).

osch- or **oscheo-** [Greek *osche* scrotum] Scrotum (oschitis, oscheohydrocele).

osmo- [Greek *osme* smell, odor, sense of smell] Odor, smell (osmology).

osmo- [Greek *osmos* thrusting] Pertaining to [osmosis](#) (osmotic).

osphresio- [Greek *osphresis* smell] Denotes odor or smell ([osphresiology](#)).

ossi- [Latin *os, ossis* bone] Bone (ossicle).

ost- or **oste-** or **osteo-** [Greek *osteon* bone] Bone (ostemia, osteectopia, osteofibroma).

ostra- or **ostre-** or **ostrei-** or **ostreo-** [Latin *ostrea* oyster] Oyster ([Ostreidae](#), [ostreophagous](#)).

ostrac- or **ostraco-** [Greek *ostrakon* shell] Shell ([Ostraciidae](#)).

ot- or **oto-** [Greek *ous, ot-* ear] Denotes the ear or hearing ([otalgia](#), [otic](#), [otitis](#), [otology](#)).

ov- or **ovi-** or **ovo-** [Latin *ovum, ovi* egg] Denotes egg or [ovum](#) ([ovary](#), [oviduct](#), [oviparous](#), [ovum](#), [ovipositor](#)).

ovari- or **ovario-** (also **oari-** or **oario**) [Latin *ovarium, ovarii* ovary] Ovary ([ovariectomy](#), ovariotubal).

ovul- or **ovulo-** [[ov-](#) + [-ul](#)] Denotes ovule or ovum ([ovulation](#)).

ox- or **oxo-** or **oxy-** [Greek *oxy-* sharp-] (1) sharp in shape, pointed (oxycephalic); (2) sharp in sensation (oxyphathia); (3) containing oxygen ([oxyhemoglobin](#)).

pachy- [Greek *pachys* thick, stout] Thick ([pachytene](#)).

paed- or **paedo-** See: [ped\(o\)-](#).

paid- or **paido-** See: [ped\(o\)-](#).

paleo- (British spelling: **palaeo-**) [Greek *palaios* old, ancient] Old, ancient ([Paleocene](#)).

paludi- [Latin *paludis* swamp, marsh] Swamp, marsh ([paludicolous](#)).

pan- or **pant-** or **panto-** [Greek prefix *pan-, pant-* all-] All, entire ([panspermia](#), [panmixia](#)).

papill- or **papilli-** or **papillo-** [Latin *papilla* nipple, teat, dug] Denotes a [papilla](#) ([papillectomy](#), [papillate](#)).

papul- or **papulo-** [Latin *papilla* papule, pustule] [Papule](#) or a [papula](#) ([papular](#), [papuliferous](#)).

par- or **para-** [Greek prefix *para-* beside, past, beyond, along, near, by, from, together] (1) ear, beyond, outside of, abnormal, alongside, by, from, together ([paracentric inversion](#)); (2) chemistry: in para-substitution, the substituents occupy positions 1 and 4 ([see explanatory diagram>>](#)).

parthen- or **partheno-** [Greek prefix *parthena* virgin] Virgin ([parthenogenesis](#)).

path- or **patho-** [Greek *pathe* suffering, misfortune] Disease, suffering ([pathology](#), [pathogen](#)).

ped- or **pedo-** or **paid-** or **paido-** (British spelling: **paed-** or **paedo-**) [Greek *paidon* young child] Denotes children (or young organisms of any kind) ([pediatrics](#)).

ped- or **pedi-** or **pedo-** [Latin *pes, pedis* foot] Foot, feet, relating to feet ([pedipalp](#), [peduncle](#)).

pel- or **pelo-** [Greek *pelos* clay, mud, mire] Of, involving, or pertaining to clay or mud ([Pelomyxa](#)).

pelvi- or **pelvio-** or **pelvo-** [Latin *pelvis* shallow basin] Denotes the [pelvis](#) ([pelvic opening](#)).

pen- or **peo-** [Latin *penis* penis] Denotes the penis (penitis, peotomy).

penn- or **penni-** or **penno-** [Latin *penna* feather] Feather ([pennate](#), [penniform](#)).

per- [Latin *per* through, during, by] Through, during (perfusion).

peri- [Greek *peri* round about, around, all around] All around, about, enclosing, surrounding ([pericentric inversion](#)).

pericardi- [Greek *perikardios* around the heart] [Pericardium](#) ([pericardial](#), [pericarditic](#), [pericarditis](#)).

peta- [prefix in International System of Units] 10^{15} (petaFLOPS).

petr- or **petri-** or **petro-** [Latin *petra* rock, boulder, stone] (1) denotes stone (petrification); (2) referring to the petrous portion of the mastoid (petrosphenoid).

phac- or **phaco-** [Greek *phakos* lentil, anything shaped like a lentil -- hence the sense of lens] (1) denotes the lens of the eye (phacosclerosis, phacoeresis); (2) lentil, lentil-shaped (phacolith).

phag- or **phago-** [Greek *phagein* to eat] Eating, feeding, ingesting, engulfing ([phagocytosis](#)).

phak- or **phako-** Alternate spellings of [phac\(o\)-](#).

phall- or **phallo-** [Greek *phallos* penis] Denotes the penis (phallosdynia, phallosorrhagia).

phaner- or **phanero-** [Greek *phaneros* visible, manifest] Visible, evident, manifest ([Phanerozoic Eon](#)).

pharmac- or **pharmaco-** [Greek *pharmakon* drug, medicine, potion, poison] Denotes drug(s) or medication(s) (pharmacography).

phil- or **philo-** [Greek *phileo* to love, regard with affection] Enjoying, loving, attracted to, requiring (philoneism).

phleb- or **phlebo-** [Greek *phleps* blood vessel (vein or artery)] Vein (phlebitis, phlebotomy).

phon- or **phono-** [Greek *phonema* sound, utterance] Sound, utterance (phonic, phonocardiography).

phot- or **photo-** [Greek *photiso* shine, give light] Denotes light (photosthesis, [phototaxis](#)).

phren- or **phreno-** or **phrenic-** or **phrenico-** [Greek *phren* mind] (1) mind, brain (phrenosin); (2) diaphragm (phrenocolopexy, phrenicoexalresis).

phyl- or **phylo-** [Greek *phylon* tribe, race] Related group ([phylogeny](#)).

phylact- or **phylacto-** [Greek *phylakeia* guard, protection] Protective (phylactocarp).

phyll- or **phyllo-** [Greek *phyllon* leaf] Denotes leaf ([Phyllophora](#)).

phys- or **physo-** [Greek *physis* bellows] Denotes distention with gas ([physometra](#)).

phyt- or **phyto-** [Greek *phyton* plant] Plant ([phytohormone](#), [phytolith](#), [phytophagous](#), [phytoplankton](#), [phytosterol](#)).

pico- [derivation uncertain, perhaps from Italian *piccolo* small] One trillionth (10^{-12}) ([picogram](#)).

picr- or **picro-** [Greek *pikros* bitter] Bitter ([picrotoxin](#)).

pil- or **pili-** or **pilo-** [Latin *pilus* hair] Denotes hair (piliform, pilocystic, pilose).

pisci- [Latin *piscus* fish] Fish ([piscifauna](#), [piscine](#), [piscivorous](#)).

pithec- or **pitheco-** [Greek *pithekos* ape, monkey] Ape ([Pithecanthropus](#)).

plan- or **plano-** [Greek *planos* wandering] Wandering, [motile](#) ([plankton](#), [planogamete](#)).

plan- or **plano-** [Latin *planus* flat] Flat ([planoccipital](#)).

plasm- or **plasmo-** [Greek *plasm* anything formed or molded] Plasma, cytoplasm, protoplasm ([plasmolysis](#)).

plast- or **plasto-** [Greek *plasm* anything formed or molded] Cytoplasm, plastid ([plastocyanin](#)).

platy- [Greek *platys* flat, level] Flat ([Platyhelminthes](#), [platyrrhine](#)).

pleur- or **pleuro-** [Greek *pleura* rib, side] Relating to the [pleura](#) ([pleural](#)).

plur- or **pluri-** [Latin *plus, pluris* more, too much] More (pluridyscrina).

pneo- [Greek *pneo* to breathe] Breath ([pneograph](#)).

pneu- or **pneum-** or **pneumo-** [Greek *pneumon* lung and *pneo* to breathe] Relating to air or the lungs (pneumonia)

pod- or **pedo-** [Greek *pous, podos, podi, poa* foot] (1) foot, hoof; of or relating to feet or hooves ([pododynia](#)); (2) stalk ([Podocarpus](#)).

poecil- or **poecilo-** or **poikil-** or **poikilo-** [Greek *poikilos* spotted, varied, changeable] Varying, variegated ([poikilothermy](#)).

poli- or **polio-** [Greek *polios* gray] (1) gray (poliosis); (2) relating to the gray matter of the nervous system (poliomyelitis).

poly- [Greek *poly-* many, much, too much, excessive] (1) many, much, multiple ([polymorphonuclear](#), [polyploidy](#)); (2) increased, excessive ([polyphagia](#), [polyuria](#)).

poro- [Greek *poros* pore] Pore, [stoma](#) ([porometer](#)).

post- [Latin *post* behind, after, afterwards] After, behind ([postcranial](#), [postpartum](#), [posterior](#)).

pre- [Latin *prae* before, in front of, forward] In front of, anterior to ([precoical](#), [premolar](#)).

pro- [Latin *pro-* before, beforehand] Before, earlier than, preceding (proamnion, proceroid, Promammalia).

pro- [Latin *pro* on behalf of, for] Favoring, supporting, preceding (progesterone).

proprio- [Latin *proprius* (adj.) own, characteristic] One's own, individually characteristic ([proprioception](#)).

pros- or **proso-** [Greek *proso* forward] Forward, in front (prosethmoid, prosogaster, Prosostomata).

proso- or **prosopo-** [Greek *prosopon* person, face] Face (prosopic, prosopagnosia).

prostat- or **prostato-** [from *prostate*] Prostate (prostatectomy).

prot- or **proto-** or **proter-** or **protero-** [Greek *proto-* first (in time)] (1) first in temporal order (protoblast, Proterozoic); (2) archetypal (protomorph).

pseud- or **pseudo-** [Greek *pseudo-* false] False (pseudesthesia).

psittac- or **psittaco-** [Latin *psittacus* Parrot] Parrot ([psittacine](#), [psittacism](#)).

psych- or **psycho-** [Greek *psyche* life, spirit, soul, mind, consciousness] The mind (psychokinesis).

psychro- [Greek *psychros* cold] Cold ([psychrophilous](#)).

pter- or **ptero-** [Greek *pteron* feathers, wing, winged one] Feather, wing ([pterosaur](#)).

pterid- or **pterido-** [Greek *pteris* fern] Fern ([pteridophytes](#)).

pteryg- or **pterygo-** [Greek *pteron* feathers, wing, winged one] (1) wing (Pterygodium); (2) pterygoid (pterygomalar).

ptil- or **ptilo-** [Greek *pteron* feathers, wing, winged one] Feather (ptilopod).

ptyal- or **ptyalo-** [Greek *ptyalon* sputum, saliva] Saliva ([ptyalagogue](#)).

pub- or **pubio-** or **pubo-** [Latin *pubescere* to reach physical maturity, grow body hair] Denotes pubic hair, pubic bone, or pubic region (puboprostic).

puli- [Latin *pulex, pulicis* flea] Fleas ([pulicide](#)).

pulmo- or **pulmon-** or **pulmono-** [Latin *pulmo, pulmonis* lung] Denotes lung (pulmometer).

pur- or **puro-** [Latin *pus, puris* pus] Denotes pus or the presence of pus ([purulent](#)).

py- or **pyo-** [Greek *pyon* pus] Pus ([pyorrhea](#), [pyuria](#)).

pycn- or **pycno-** or **pykn-** or **pykno-** [Greek *pyknos* close, compact, narrow, constricted] Compact, dense, thick (pycnometer).

pyel- or **pyelo-** [Greek *pyelos* tub, vat, trough] Denotes the [pelvis renalis](#) (pyelolithotomy).

pyg- or **pygo-** [Greek *pyge* rump, buttocks] Denotes the [nates](#) (pygopagus).

pyle- or **pylo-** [Greek *pyle* orifice] Orifice ([pylorus](#)).

pylor- or **pyloro-** [Greek *pyloros* gatekeeper] Pertaining to the [pylorus](#) ([pylorectomy](#), [pylorostenosis](#)).

pyr- or **pyro-** [Greek *pyr* fire] Fire, heat (pyropuncture).

quadr- or **quadri-** or **quadru-** [Latin *quadr-* four- from *quattuor* four] Four, having four parts ([quadruped](#), [quadriplegia](#)).

quinqu- or **quinque-** or **quint-** or **quinti-** [Latin *quinque, quintus* five] Five, having five parts ([quintipara](#), [quintuplet](#)).

rachi- or **rachio-** [Greek *rachis* spine] Spine (rachiodont).

radio- [Latin *radius* ray] (1) denotes radioactivity or radiant energy ([radiograph](#), [radioisotope](#)); (2) pertaining to the [radius](#) ([radiohumeral](#)).

re- [Latin *re-* again] Back, again (resuscitation).

reni- or **reno-** [Latin *renunculus* kidney] Denotes kidney (renogastric).

reti- or **reticul-** or **reticulo-** [Latin *rete, retis* net, snare] Denotes a network or rete (retiform, reticulocytosis).

retin- or **retino-** [Latin *rete, retis* net; referring to the network of vessels on the retina] Denotes the retina (retinopathy).

retro- [Latin *retro* backwards, to the rear, behind, on the back; back in time, formerly] (1) backward (retroserrulate); (2) situated behind (retroocular); (3) reversing a trend (retroversion).

rhabd- or **rhabdo-** [Greek *rhabdos* rod, stick] Denotes a rod or stick; rod-shaped ([rhabdomyoma](#)).

rheo- [Greek *rheos* current] Flow, stream, current, electric current (rheostat).

rhiz- or **rhizo-** [Greek *rhiza* root] Root (rhizanthous).

sacchar- or **saccharo-** [Greek *sakcharon* sugar] Sugar ([saccharuria](#)).

sacr- or **sacra-** or **sacro-** [Latin *sacrum* sacrum] Denotes the [sacrum](#) ([sacroiliac](#), [sacrolumbar](#)).

salping- or **salpingo-** [Greek *salpinx* tube] Relating to a salpinx, especially a eustachian or fallopian tube (salpingitis, salpingotomy).

sangui- [Latin *sanguis* blood] Denotes blood ([sanguiferous](#)).

sapr- or **sapro-** [Greek *sapros* rotten] Rotten, putrid, dead, decaying ([saprophyte](#)).

sarc- or **sarco-** [Greek *sarx* flesh] Flesh, soft tissue ([sarcoma](#), [sarcomere](#)).

saur- or **sauro-** [Greek *saura* lizard] Lizard, lizardlike ([saurian](#), [sauropagus](#), [sauropod](#)).

schiz- or **schizo-** [Greek *schizein* to split or cleave] Split, cleft, divided; produced by cleavage (schizocoel).

scler- or **sclero-** [Greek *skleros* hard] (1) hard ([scleriosis](#), [scleroderma](#)); (2) relating to the sclera ([sclerocornea](#)).

solec- or **scoleco-** [Greek *skolex* worm] Worm ([scoleoid](#)).

scut- or **scuti-** [Latin *scutum* shield] Denotes a shield or [scutum](#) ([scutiferous](#), [scutiform](#)).

semi- [Latin *semi* half] Half (semilunar).

sept- or **septi-** [Latin *septem* seven] Seven (septifolious).

sept- or **septi-** or **septo-** [Latin *separare* to separate] Septum (septectomy).

sept- or **septi-** or **septic-** **septico-** [Greek *sepsis* putrefaction] [Sepsis](#) (septicemia).

sesqui- [Latin *sesqui* one and a half times] One and a half (sesquidiploid).

sex- or **sexi-** or **sexti-** [Latin *sex*, *sextus* six] Six (sextuplet, sextipara).

sial- or **sialo-** [Greek *sialon* saliva] Saliva ([sialagogue](#))

sider- or **sidero-** [Greek *sideros* iron] Denotes iron or steel ([siderocytes](#))

sinistr- or **sinistro-** [Latin *sinister*, *sinistra* left] Left, to the left (sinistocardia).

sito- [Greek *sitos* grain] (1) grain ([Sitophilus](#), [sitosterol](#)); (2) food ([sitology](#)).

som- or **soma-** or **somato-** [Greek *soma* body] Body, of the body ([somatic](#), [somites](#)).

speci- or **specie-** or **specio-** [Latin *species* appearance] [Species](#).

spectr- or **spectro-** [New Latin *spectrum* spectrum] (1) of or pertaining to spectra ([spectral karyotype](#)); (2) of or pertaining to a [spectrophotometer](#).

sperm- or **sperma-** or **spermi-** or **spermo-** or **spermat-** or **spermato-** [Greek *sperma* seed, semen, race, origin] Denotes seed, sperm, germ, semen ([spermatid](#)).

sphen- or **spheno-** [Greek *sphen* wedge] (1) wedge, wedge-shaped ([Sphenisciformes](#)); (2) of or pertaining to the sphenoid. [PICTURE OF SPHENOID](#)

sphygm- or **sphygmo-** [Greek *sphygmos* pulse] Denotes the pulse ([sphygmia](#)).

spir- or **spiri-** or **spiro-** [Greek *speira* coil] Coil, spiral ([Spirillum](#)).

spiro- [Latin *spirare* to breathe; blow; live] Respiration ([spiroscope](#)).

splanchn- or **splanchno-** [Greek *splanchnon* internal organ] Denotes internal organs ([splanchnology](#)).

spondyl- or **spondylo-** [Greek *spondylos* a [vertebra](#)] Pertaining to vertebra(e) ([spondylitis](#)).

spor- or **spori-** or **sporo-** [Greek *sporos* sowing, seed, offspring, semen] Seed, spore ([sporulation](#)).

squam- or **squamo-** [Latin *squama* scale] Scale, scalelike ([Squamata](#)).

staphyl- or **staphylo-** [Greek *staphyle* bunch of grapes] (1) like a bunch of grapes (*Staphylococcus*); (2) relating to the uvula or soft palate ([staphylopharyngeus](#)); (3) relating to *Staphylococcus* ([staphyloangina](#), [staphylococchemia](#)).

stat- or **stato-** [Greek *statos* standing] Standing, resting, balanced (statocyst).

steat- or **steato-** [Greek *stear* fat, tallow] Fat ([steatorrhea](#)).

steg- or **stego-** [Greek *stega* roof] In taxonomic names: Covering plate or layer (Stegosaurus).

sten- or **steno-** [Greek *stenos* narrow] Narrow, contracted, short ([stenosis](#), [stenostomia](#), [stenothermal](#)).

sterc- or **sterc-** [Latin *stercus* dung] Denotes excrement (stercoral).

stere- or **stereo-** [Greek *stereos* solid] Solid (stereochemistry).

steth- or **stetho-** [Greek *stethos* chest] Denotes the chest (stethoscope).

stomat- or **stomato-** [Greek *stoma*, *stomat-* mouth] Mouth, opening, stoma (Stomatidae, stomatologist).

strat- or **strato-** [Latin *stratum* bed, blanket] [Stratum](#) ([stratified](#), [stratigraphy](#)).

strept- or **strepto-** [Greek *streptos* to be bent or turned] (1) twisted ([Streptococcus](#)); (2) *Streptococcus*-caused or -related ([streptocemia](#), [streptodermatitis](#)).

styl- or **stylo-** [Greek *stylos* pillar] Pertaining to the [styloid process](#) ([stylomandibular](#)).

sub- [Latin *sub* under, beneath, behind, during] (1) under ([subcutaneous](#)); (2) a division of [taxonomic](#) group ([suborder](#)).

sulf- or **sulfo-** (British spelling is **sulph-**) [Latin *sulfur* brimstone, sulfur] Sulfur ([sulfonamides](#)).

super- or **supero-** or **supra-** [Latin *super* above, on top, upon, over, upwards] Above, over, upon, on the upper side ([superorder](#), [suprarenal](#)).

sym- or **syn-** [Greek *syn* together] (1) with, together, united ([symbiosis](#), [synapsis](#), [syncytium](#), [syngamy](#)); (2) the same ([syngeneic](#)).

syphil- or **syphilo-** [derivation uncertain] Syphilis (syphilomania).

syring- or **syringo-** [Greek *syrinx* pipe or tube] Tube, fistula, duct, canal ([syringitis](#)).

tach- or **tacho-** or **tachy-** [Greek *tachos* speed] Swift, rapid, accelerated (tachygenesis).

taen- or **taenio-** or **taeno-** or **ten-** [Greek *tainia* band, headband] Denotes tapeworm(s) (teniform, teniasis).

taph- or **tapho-** [Greek *taphos* funeral, tomb, grave] Burial, grave ([taphonomy](#)).

tars- or **tarso-** [Greek *tarsos podos* flat of the foot] Denotes the [tarsus](#) ([tarsotibial](#)).

taut- or **tauto-** [Greek *tautos* the same, identical] Identical ([tautomerism](#)).

tax- or **taxo-** [Greek *taxis* arrangement, order] Denotes arrangement or ordering ([taxonomy](#)).

teg- or **tegu-** [Latin *tegmen* covering, protection; clothing, armor, skin, shell, husk] Covering, skin, armor (tegmen).

tel- or **tele-** or **telo-** [Greek *telos* end] End, completion ([telomere](#), [telophase](#)).

tele- [Greek *tele* distant] Distant (teleceptor).

ten- See: [taen-](#).

tera- [prefix in International System of Units] trillion (10¹²) (terabyte).

tetr- or **tetra-** [Greek *tetra* four] Four, having four parts ([tetramer](#), [tetraploid](#), [tetrapod](#)).

tetrahydr- or **tetrahydro-** [[tetra-](#) + [hydro-](#)] Indicates a molecule containing four hydrogen atoms ([tetrahydrofolate](#)).

thec- or **theci-** or **theco-** [Latin *theca* case, box, cover, envelope, container] Sac, capsule, sporecase (theca).

therio- [Greek *therion* wild animal] Beast, mammal (theriomorph).

therm- or **thermo-** [Greek *therme* heat] Heat, hot (thermolabile).

thi- or **thio-** [Greek *theion* sulfur] Sulfur (thiamin, thiophil).

thorac- or **thoraco-** [Latin *thorax* chest] Chest (thoracoepigastric).

thromb- or **thrombo-** [Greek *thrombos* lump, clot of blood] Denotes a [thrombus](#) ([thrombocyte](#), [thrombosis](#)).

thyr- or **thyreo-** or **thyro-** or **thyroid-** [Greek *thyreos* oblong shield] Refers to the [thyroid gland](#) (thyrohyoid, thyroidectomy) or, more broadly, to anything shield-shaped ([thyroid](#)).

tibi- or **tibio-** [Latin *tibia* pipe, shinbone] Denotes the [tibia](#) ([tibiofemoral](#)).

toco- (also, rarely: **toko-**) [Greek *tokeus* father, sire] Denotes birth (tocology).

tono- [Greek *tonos* pressure] Pressure ([tonoplast](#), [tonotaxis](#)).

tox- or **toxi-** or **toxo-** [Greek *toxon* bow] (1) arched, bowlike (Toxodonta) (2) arrow-shaped (*Toxoglossa*).

tox- or **toxi-** or **toxic-** or **toxico-** or **tox-** [Latin *toxicum* poison] Poisonous, toxic ([toxicity](#)).

trache- or **tracheo** [Greek *trachelos* throat, neck] Relating to the [trachea](#) (trachealgia).

trachel- or **trachelo** [Greek *trachelos* throat, neck] Denotes the neck (trachelomastoid).

trans- [Latin *trans* across, beyond, on the other side] Across ([transfection](#), [transposon](#)).

tri- [Greek *tri* thrice] Three, triple ([trichocyst](#)).

trich- or **tricho-** [Greek *thrix* the hair of the head] Hair, filament ([tricuspid](#)).

tripl- or **tripla-** or **tripli-** or **tripl-** [Greek *triploos* threefold, triple] Triple ([triploblastic](#), [triploid](#)).

troph- or **tropho-** [Greek *trophe* nourishment, food] Relating to nutrition ([trophoblast](#)).

trop- or **tropo-** [Greek *tropos* turn, direction, way] turn, rotation (tropometer).

trop- or **tropa-** [from tropine] (1) tropine; (2) atropine.

trypan- or **trypano-** [Latin *trypanon* auger] (1) borer, auger, spiral ([Trypanosoma](#)); (2) [trypanosome](#) ([trypanosomiasis](#)).

tubo- [Latin *tubus* pipe, trumpet] Denotes a tube (tuboperitoneal).

tympan- or **tympano-** [Latin *tympanus* drum] Relating to the [tympanic membrane](#) (tympanotomy).

ul- or **ule-** or **ulo-** [Greek *oulon* the gums] The gums ([ulocace](#), [ulorrhea](#)).

uln- or **ulno-** [Latin *ulna* forearm] Relating to the [ulna](#) ([ulnocarpal](#)).

ultra- [Latin *ultra* beyond, further, more, on the other side] Beyond, in excess, extreme ([ultraviolet](#)).

un- [Germanic equivalent of Latin *un-* and Greek *an-*] Not, opposite, deprived of (unossified).

unci- [Latin *uncus* hook] Hook, hooked (uncinate). Compare: [onci-](#).

undec- (or, rarely: **hendec-**) [Latin *undecim* eleven] Eleven (undecane).

uni- [Latin *unus* one] One, single (univalent).

ur- or **uro-** [Greek *oura* tail] Tail, taillike, posterior region (Urodela).

ureter- or **uretero-** [Greek *oureter* ureter] Denotes the ureter(s) (ureteralgia).

urin- or **urino-** or **uro-** [Greek *ouron* urine] Urine (urinology).

vagin- or **vagino-** [Latin *vagina* sheath, scabbard] Denotes the vagina (vaginitis).

vas- or **vaso-** [Latin *vas* vessel, dish, vase] Blood vessel (vasodilator).

vascul- or **vasculo-** [Latin *vasculum* small vessel] Blood vessel (vasculature).

ven- or **veni-** or **veno-** [Latin *vena* blood vessel, vein] (1) vein (venipuncture); (2) vena cava (venous).

ventr- or **ventri-** or **ventro-** [Latin *venter, ventris* stomach, belly, womb] (1) in humans: denotes the belly or front; (2) in animals: denotes the lower surface ([ventrolateral](#)).

vermi- [Latin *vermis* worm, maggot] Worm (vermiform).

vesicul- or **vesicul-** [Latin *vesicula* small bladder or blister] Denotes [vesicle\(s\)](#) ([vesicular](#)).

vibr- or **vibri-** [Latin *vibrare* to shake or vibrate] Denotes vibration; hence, in a bacterium, the presence of [flagella](#) is implied ([Vibrio](#)).

vill- or **villi-** [Latin *villus* shaggy hair] Denotes a [villus](#) or [villi](#) ([villiform](#), [vilosity](#)).

vir- [from *virus*] Virus (viricide).

viscer- or **viscero-** [Latin *viscus* internal organ] Pertaining to the internal organs (visceral).

vitre- or **vitreo-** [Latin *vitreus* glassy] Like glass; clear as glass, glassy (vitreous).

viv- or **vivi-** [Latin *vivus* alive, living] Alive, living; lively (vivisection).

vulv- or **vulvo-** [Latin *vulva* womb] Denotes the vulva (vulvar).

xanth- or **xantho-** [Greek *xanthos* yellow] Yellow ([xanthous](#)).

xen- or **xeno-** [Greek *xenos* stranger, foreigner] Foreign, strange, intruding ([xenograft](#)).

xer- or **xero-** [Greek *xeros* dry] Dry ([xeric](#)).

xiphi- or **xipho-** [Greek *xiphos* sword] Denotes the xiphoid process ([xiphocostal](#)).

xyl- or **xylo-** [Greek *xylon* wood] Wood ([xylem](#)).

yocto- [prefix in International System of Units] 10^{-24} (yoctogram).

yotta- [prefix in International System of Units] 10^{24} (yottaFLOPS).

zepto- [prefix in International System of Units] 10^{-21} (zeptomole).

zeta- [prefix in International System of Units] 10^{21} (zetaFLOPS).

zinco- Pertaining to or containing the element zinc.

zirco- Pertaining to or containing the element zirconium.

zo- or **zoo-** [Greek *zoon* animal] (1) of or relating to animals ([zoology](#), [zoophagous](#), [zoosterol](#)); (2) capable of movement (zoocytium).

zyg- or **zygo-** [Greek *zygon* yoke, tying element] Union, fusion, yoking ([zygote](#)).

zym- or **zymo-** [Greek *zymosis* fermentation] Ferment, enzyme ([zymotic](#))

SUFFIXES STARTING WITH:

-able [Latin *-bilis* capable of] Capable of being or doing the thing indicated by the stem or prefix ([agglutinable](#)).

-ac (1) pertaining to (iliac); (2) affected by ([hypochondriac](#)).

-acanth [Greek *akantha* thorn] Thorn or spine (coelacanth).

-acea In [taxonomic](#) classification: indicates a category, usually an order, of animal forms ([Gorgonacea](#)).

-aceae In [taxonomic](#) classification: indicates a plant family ([Begoniaceae](#)).

-acean (1) = aceous; (2) one(s) having the characteristic indicated by the stem or prefix ([crustacean](#)).

-aceous or **-aceus** or **-acious** Full of, composed of, partaking of, of the nature of, characterized by, tending to be (ciliaceous).

-aceum In botanical names: one(s) having the characteristic indicated by the stem or prefix ([Gossypium herbaceum](#)).

-acity Having the quality indicated by the stem or prefix (opacity).

-acousia or **-acusia** or **-acusis** [Greek *akouein* to hear] The state of hearing indicated by the stem or prefix (anacusis).

-acy The quality or state indicated by the stem or prefix (monochromacy).

-ad [Latin *ad* to, up to, towards; near, at; on] Toward, up to, near(er) ([caudad](#)).

-aemia See: [-emia](#)

-aesthesia See: [-esthesia](#).

-aesthetic See: [-esthetic](#).

-aetus [Greek *aetos* eagle] Eagle ([Haliaetus](#)).

-age [Latin *-acticum* leading] Collection, amount, rate (dosage); process of, action of (coverage, [linkage](#)).

-agog or **-agogue** [Greek *agogos* leading] To drive, to make flow, to elicit ([galactagogue](#), [ptyalagogue](#)).

-agra [Greek *agra* seizure] Painful seizure ([chiragra](#)).

-al [Latin *-alis*] Of, belonging to, pertaining to, connected with, like (amniochorial).

-algesia or -algesic or -algetic or -algia or -algie or -algy [Greek *algesia* sense of pain] Denotes suffering, pain, or sensitivity to pain (hyperalgesia, [neuralgia](#), [myalgia](#)).

-ally [**-al** + **-ly**] Suffix used to convert adjectives ending in *-ic* into adverbs.

-an Relating to, native of, like ([saurian](#)).

-andra [Greek *andros* man, since the stamen is the male organ of a flower] Denotes [stamens](#) or [anthers](#) of the type or number indicated by the stem or prefix (*Pachysandra*).

-andria [Greek *andros* man, since the stamen is the male organ of a flower] One(s) [stamens](#) or [anthers](#) of the type or number indicated by the stem or prefix (*Icosandria*). Used by Linnaeus in naming botanical classes.

-androus [Greek *andros* man, since the stamen is the male organ of a flower] Having [stamens](#) or [anthers](#) of the type or number indicated by the stem or prefix ([dodecandrous](#)).

-andry [Greek *andros* man, since the stamen is the male organ of a flower] Condition of having [stamens](#) or [anthers](#) of the type or number indicated by the stem or prefix ([monandry](#)).

-angium or -ange [Greek *angos* vessel] Vessel, receptacle ([sporangium](#)).

-anthous [Greek *anthos* flower] Flowered in the way indicated by the stem or prefix (oliganthous).

-anthropus [Greek *anthropos* human being] Type of human indicated by the stem or prefix ([Paranthropus](#)).

-ar [Latin *-aris*] Of, belonging to, connected with, like ([nuclear](#)).

-arch [Greek *arche* beginning] Having the beginning indicated by the stem or prefix (endarch).

-archy [Greek *archein* to rule] Government or order of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (hierarchy).

-arium (pl *-ariums*, *-aria*) or **-ary** (pl *-aries*) [Latin *-arius*] Thing or place which belongs to, is connected with, or like the thing indicated by the stem or prefix (termitary).

-ase Denotes a colloid enzyme ([amylase](#)).

-asthenia [Greek *asthenes* weak] Weakness (thrombasthenia).

-ata [Greek plural ending] Used to indicate the plural of numerous scientific names and words of Greek origin ending in *-a* (e.g., sing [carcinoma](#), pl *carcinomata*; sing [chromonema](#), pl *chromonemata*).

-ate (1) indicates the salt of a base ([phosphate](#)); (2) having the function specified, or being in the state indicated, by the stem or prefix ([brevifoliate](#), [centrifugate](#)).

-ation [Latin ending *-ation-*] Denotes a process of the kind indicated by the stem or prefix ([fertilization](#)).

-ative [Latin ending *-ativus*] Of, pertaining, or related to the thing indicated by the stem or prefix ([purgative](#)).

-bacter Bacterial organism (*Enterobacter*).

-basia or -basis [Greek *badisis* walking, going] Denotes walking or going of the sort indicated by the stem or prefix (abasia).

-batrachus [Greek *batrachos* frog] Frog, toad ([Megalobatrachus](#)).

-bia or **-bian** or **-biont** or **-bium** [Greek *bios* way of life] One(s) living in the way indicated by the stem or prefix ([amphibian](#), [endosymbiont](#)).

-biosis [Greek *bios* way of life] Way of life indicated by the stem or prefix ([anabiosis](#), [endosymbiosis](#)).

-biotic [Greek *bios* way of life] (1) of or relating to life in the way indicated by the stem or prefix (antibiotic) (2) living as indicated by the stem or prefix (cryptobiotic, [endosymbiotic](#)).

-blast [Greek *blastos* bud] Initial stage of development, bud, germ, sprout, embryonic cell ([trophoblast](#)).

-blastic [Greek *blastos* bud] Sprouting, [germinating](#), or developing initially in the way indicated by the stem or prefix ([diploblastic](#), [triploblastic](#)).

-blasty [Greek *blastos* bud] [Germination](#), sprouting or initial development of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([triploblasty](#)).

-blepharon (1) [Greek *blepharon* eyelid] eyelid (ankyloblepharon); (2) [Greek *blepharis* eyelash] eyelash, cilium (this sense is rare; *-blepharon* usually refers to the eyelid).

-brachial [Latin *brachium* arm] Of or relating to an arm (antebrachial).

-branch or **-branchia** or **-branchiae** [Greek *branchia* gills] Gill(s), one(s) with gills of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([nudibranch](#)).

-calcaneal [Latin *calcaneus* heel] Of or pertaining to the [calcaneus](#) ([fibulocalcaneal](#)).

-cardia [Latin *cor, cordis* heart] (1) having the type of heart or condition of the heart indicated by the stem or prefix ([dextrocardia](#)); (2) in [taxonomic](#) names: one(s) having the type of heart(s) indicated by the stem or prefix ([Diplocardia](#)).

-cardium [Latin *cor, cordis* heart] A tissue or structure related to the heart in the way indicated by the stem or prefix ([pericardium](#)).

-caris [Latin *caris* shrimp, prawn] In taxonomic names: Shrimp, prawn (*Mirocaris*).

-carp [Greek *karpos* fruit, wrist] (1) a plant or fungus having fruit of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([cleistocarp](#)); (2) a part of a fruit or plant ovary ([pericarp](#)).

-carpal [Greek *karpos* fruit, wrist] Relating to the [carpus](#) ([radiocarpal](#)).

-cecal [Latin *caecum* blind -- referring to the fact that the cecum has a single outlet] Denotes the [cecum](#) ([ileocecal valve](#)).

-cele [Greek *kele* tumor, hernia] Swelling, tumor, hernia (cardiocele, [choriocele](#)).

-cele Variant spelling of [-coel](#). </P

-cene [Greek *kainos* new, fresh] In names of geologic periods: recent ([Oligocene](#)).

-centesis [Greek *kentesis* puncture] Surgical puncture of the thing indicated by the stem or prefix (oculocentesis).

-cephalia or **-cephalism** or **-cephalus** or **-cephaly** [Latin *cephalicus* pertaining to the head] Condition of having the sort of head(s), or of having the number of heads, indicated by the stem or prefix ([acephalia](#), [hydrocephalus](#)).

-cephalic or **-cephaloid** or **-cephalous** [Latin *cephalicus* pertaining to the head] Pertaining or relating to a condition of having the sort of head(s), or of having the number of heads, indicated by the stem or prefix ([hydrocephalic](#), [hydrocephaloid](#), [acephalous](#)).

-ceras or **-cerus** [Greek *keras* horn] Horned one (*Acanthoceras*).

-cercal [Greek *kerkos* tail] Tailed (cephalocercal).

-cercy [Greek *kerkos* tail] Tail formation, of a particular type (heterocercy).

-ceti /-SEE-tee/ [Latin *cetus* whale, dolphin] In taxonomic names: Whales (Odontoceti).

-cetus /-SEE-tuhs/ [Latin *cetus* whale, dolphin] In taxonomic names: Whale, dolphin ([Ambulocetus](#)).

-chaeta or **-chaetum** or **-chaetus** or **-chete** (pl **chaetae** or **-chaetes**) [Greek *chaite* hair] haired or bristled one(s) of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([spirochete](#)).

-cheilia (also, rarely, **-chilia**) [Greek *cheilos* lip] A condition of the lip(s) ([acheilia](#)).

-cheiria or **-chiria** [Greek *cheir* hand, paw] Condition of the hand(s), or handedness, of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([acheiria](#)).

-choerus [Greek *choeros* pig] In [taxonomic](#) names: pig ([Hylochoerus](#)).

-cholecystis [[chol-](#) + [-cystis](#)] Condition of the gallbladder indicated by the stem or prefix (hydrocholecystis).

-chondrion (pl **-chondria**) [Greek *chondrion* small grain] Of, relating to, or like a grain ([mitochondrion](#)).

-chord [Greek *chordos* string] Denotes an anatomical [cord](#) ([notochord](#)).

-chore [Greek *chorein* spread, advance] Plant spreading by the means indicated by the stem or prefix ([zoochore](#)).

-chore [Greek *choros* place] Place, location ([kinetochore](#)).

-chorous [Greek *chorein* spread, advance] Spreading by the means indicated by the stem or prefix ([zoochorous](#)).

-chory (pl **chories**) [Greek *chorein* spread, advance] Spreading of a plant by the means indicated by the stem or prefix ([zoochory](#)).

-chroia [Greek *chromos* color] Coloration ([xanthochroia](#)).

-chroic or **-chromatic** or **-chroous** [Greek *chroma* color] Colored in the way indicated by the stem or prefix ([dichroic](#)).

-chromia or **-chromy** [Greek *chromos* colored] Condition of pigmentation indicated by the stem or prefix ([achromia](#)).

-chronia or **-chrony** [Greek *chronos* time] Time-related condition of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([heterochronia](#), synchrony).

-cidal [Latin *caedere* to chop, hew, murder, kill] Causing death to the thing indicated by the stem or prefix (fungicidal).

-cide [Latin *caedere* to chop, hew, murder, kill] Killer: a thing causing death to whatever is indicated by the stem or prefix (fungicide).

-clasia or **-clasis** [Greek *clastos* broken] Breaking, breaking up ([hemoclasia](#), [hemoclasis](#)).

-clast [Greek *clastos* broken] Breaker: one, or that which, breaks the thing indicated by the stem or prefix (cranioclast).

-clastic [Greek *clastos* broken] Denotes breaking or disintegration (odontoclastic).

-cleisis (pl **-cleises**) or **-clisis** (pl **clises**) [Greek *kleistos* closed] Closure, obstruction, occlusion (enterocleisis).

-clinium [Greek *kline* couch] Receptacle (conoclinium).

-cliny (pl **-clinies**) [modern construction] The state of being inherited from (matricliny).

-cnemia /-kuh-NEEM-(ee)-yuh/ or **-cnemism** /-kuh-NEEM-iz-uhm/ [Greek *kneme* shin] Condition of the shin or leg of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([bucnemia](#), [platycnemia](#)).

-cnemic /-kuh-NEEM-ick/ [Greek *kneme* shin] Having a condition of the shin or leg of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([platycnemic](#)).

-cnemus /-kuh-NEEM-uhs/ [Greek *kneme* shin] In [taxonomic](#) names: one having a condition of the leg of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([Eleutherodactylus rhabdocnemus](#)).

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-coccus [Greek *kokkos* berry] Indicates a [bacterium](#) with a spherical shape ([Streptococcus](#)).

-coel or **-coele** [Greek *koiolos* hollow] Having a chamber, cavity, hollow, or ventricle of the type or number indicated by the stem or prefix ([blastocoel](#)).

-coline or **-colous** [Latin *colere* to live in a place, to inhabit] Living in or on the thing indicated by the prefix ([paludicolous](#)).

-colpos [Greek *kolpos* vagina] Disorder of the vagina of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([hematocolpos](#)).

-coma or **-come** [Greek *kome* hair] Having hair of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (brachycome).

-cornis [Latin *cornua* horn, hoof, beak, claw] Horned or horny of the way indicated by the stem or prefix (in [taxonomic](#) names) ([Dicerus bicornis](#)).

-crania [Greek *cranion* skull] Condition of the skull of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (chondrocrania).

-crine [Greek *krinein* to secrete] To secrete ([endocrine](#)).

-cubital [Latin *cubitum* elbow, forearm, ulna] Related to the ulna or forearm (brachiocubital).

-cubital [Latin *cubere* to lie in bed recline] Related to or caused by lying in bed ([decubital](#)).

-cule [the diminutive ending Latin *-culum*] Small (molecule, saccule).

-cyst [Greek *kystis* bladder, sac] (1) a sac of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([blastocyst](#)); (2) a [cyst](#) of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (endocyst, pyocyst).

-cystic [Greek *kystis* bladder, sac] Relating to the bladder or gallbladder (hepatocystic).

-cystis [Greek *kystis* bladder, sac] A condition of the bladder or gallbladder of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (cholecystis).

-cyte [Greek *kytos* hollow vessel] Cell of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([leukocyte](#), [lymphocyte](#)).

-cytial [Greek *kytos* hollow vessel] Pertaining to a cell or cells of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([syncytial](#)).

-cytium (pl **-cytia**) [Greek *kytos* hollow vessel] A cell ([syncytium](#)).

-dactyl [Greek *dactylos* finger] One having fingers of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (pterodactyl).

-dactylia or **-dactylism** or **-dactyly** [Greek *dactylos* finger] A condition of fingers of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (hexadactylia).

-dactylous [Greek *dactylos* finger] Having fingers of the type or number indicated by the stem or prefix ([brachydactylous](#)).

-dema [Greek *demas* body] In [taxonomic](#) names: Having a body of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (*Eurydema*).

-dendron [Greek *dendron* tree] Denotes a tree, a treelike structure, or stem (*Philodendron*).

-dentate [Latin *dens, dentis* tooth; tooth-like thing] Having teeth or toothlike parts of the type or number indicated by the stem or prefix (multidentate).

-derm [Greek *derma* skin] Something having or being a skin or surface of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([echinoderm](#), [endoderm](#)).

-derma (pl **-dermata**) [Greek *derma* skin] One(s) having a skin of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([Echinoderma](#)).

-dermia [Greek *derma* skin] Having a skin disorder of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (keratoderma).

-desis [Greek *desis* binding, from *dein* to bind] Denotes binding, ligation, or immobilization ([arthrodesis](#)).

-desm or **-desma** or **-desmus** (pl **-desmata** or **-desmas**) [Greek *desme* bundle, from *dein* to bind] One(s) binding or ligating ([plasmodesmata](#)).

-diol [Modern scientific construction: di- + ol (alcohol)] Compound containing two [hydroxyl](#) groups (estradiol).

-dione [Modern scientific construction: di- + -one] Compound containing two [carbonyl](#) groups (androstenedione).

-dom [Old English *-dom* judgment, state, condition] Condition, quality(freedom, [kingdom](#)).

-dont [Latin *dens, dentis* tooth; tooth-like thing] Teeth ([brachydont](#)).

-dromous or **-drome** [Greek *dramein* to run] Running ([heterodromous](#), [homodromous](#)).

-duct [Latin *ducere* to lead] Tube, vessel ([oviduct](#)).

-dynia [Greek *odyne* pain] Pain (adenodynia).

-dyta or **-dytes** [Greek *dyein* to dive] Diving ([Lophodytes](#)).

-eae [Latin plural feminine ending] In [taxonomic](#) names: a group, usually a family or subfamily ([Caesalpinioideae](#)).

-eal See: [-al](#).

-ean See: [-an](#).

-ectasia or **-ectasis** [from Greek [ec-](#) + [-tasia](#) from *teinein* to stretch] Dilation of tubular vessel(s) ([lymphectasia](#), [esophagectasis](#)).

-ectomy [[ec](#) + [tomy](#)] Cutting out, excision, surgical removal ([ovariectomy](#)).

-ectopia [[ec](#) + [-topia](#)] Dislocation, malplacement, being out of place (osteectopia).

-ectropion [Greek *ektropion* a turning or movement outward]
Eversion ([cheilectropion](#)).

-edema [from Greek *oidema* swelling] Swelling, edema (myoedema).

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-el or **-ella** or **-elle** [from Latin diminutive endings *-ellus*, *-ella*, *-ellum*] Little one, small (fontanelle).

-elcosis [from Greek *elkosis* ulceration] Ulceration ([dacryelcosis](#)).

-ema Pathological condition ([eczema](#)).

-emesis [from Greek *emein* to vomit] Vomiting, [nausea](#) ([cholemesis](#)).

-emia or **-hemia** (British: **-aemia** or **-haemia**) [from Greek *aima* blood] Blood ([anemia](#), [hypercalcemia](#), [hyperglycemia](#)).

-encephalia [from Greek *enkephalos* brain] The condition of having a brain in the state indicated by the prefix (exencephalia).

-encephalus (pl **encephali**) [from Greek *enkephalos* brain] One having a brain in the condition indicated by the prefix (anencephalus).

-ense or **-ensis** [from Latin *-ense*, *-ensis* = English *-ese*] In [taxonomic](#) names: native of, relating to, or characteristic of the place indicated by the stem or prefix (algeriense = native to Algeria; floridensis = native to Florida).

-er One who, that which ([promoter](#)).

-eremia (British: **-eraemia**) [Greek *eremia* lack] Lack, absence ([irideremia](#)).

-eresis [Greek *eiresis* take] Taking (phacoeresis).

-ergy [Greek *ergon* work] Work (allergy).

-ery [from Latin *-erius*] That which belongs to, is connected with, or like the thing indicated by the stem or prefix ([surgery](#)).

-escence [Latin *-escentia*] In the process of becoming, or being the thing indicated by the stem or prefix ([inflorescence](#), [putrescence](#)).

-escent [Latin *-escens*] Becoming, or being the thing indicated by the stem or prefix ([phosphorescent](#)).

-ese [from [-ense](#)] Native of, relating to, or characteristic of the place indicated by the stem or prefix (Siamese).

-esophageal (British: **-oesophageal**) [from Greek *oisophagos* esophagus] [Esophagus](#) (pharyngoesophageal).

-ess [from Latin *-issa*] Suffix indicating the female sex (lioness).

-estes [from Greek *edmenai* to eat] In [taxonomic](#) names: eater of the thing indicated by the prefix; used in generic names of birds (*Spermestes*).

-esthesia (British: **-aesthesia**) [from Greek *aisthesis* sensation, feeling] Sensation ([anesthesia](#), [oxyesthesia](#)).

-esthetic (British: **-aesthetic**) [from Greek *aisthesis* sensation, feeling] Pertaining to sensation ([anesthetic](#)).

-etic Equivalent to [-ic](#); used to form adjectives from nouns ending in *-esis* (e.g., *biosynthetic* from *biosynthesis*).

-etum (pl **-etums** or **-eta**) [from Latin *-etum* grove] Grove, garden (pinetum, arboretum, palmetum).

-facient [Latin *facere* to do, make, create, cause] Making, causing (immunifacient, somnifacient).

-fer [Latin *ferre* to bring, bear, carry, produce] One that bears, carries, or produces the thing(s) indicated by stem or prefix (conifer).

-ferous [Latin *ferre* to bring, bear, produce] Bearing, carrying, or producing the thing indicated by the root or prefix ([branchiferous](#), [papuliferous](#)).

-fibular [Latin *fibula* clasp, brooch] Of or pertaining to the [fibula](#) ([talofibular](#)).

-form [Latin *forma* form, shape, model] Shaped ([bacilliform](#)).

-fuge [Latin *fugere* put to flight, chase or drive away] To drive away from or drive out ([centrifuge](#), [febrifuge](#)).

-ful also **-full** [Old English *full* (rarely used in construction of scientific terms)] (1) adj: full of, characterized by, resembling; (2) n: the amount or quantity that fills (teaspoonful, cupful).

-fy [shortening of Latin *-ficare*, from *facere* to do, make, create, cause] To make into (classify).

-gaea or **-gea** [Greek *ge* earth, land] A region of the earth ([Pangea](#)).

-gam [Greek *gamia* marriage] Plant belonging to a group with the mode of reproduction indicated by the prefix (cytogam).

-gen [Greek *gennan* to produce] (1) one that generates or produces ([hydrogen](#), [pathogen](#)); (2) one that is generated or produced ([parthenogen](#)).

-gene [Greek *gennan* to produce] Gene ([oncogene](#)).

-genesis or **-geny** [Greek *gennan* to produce] Production, origin, formation ([lysogeny](#), [parthenogenesis](#)).

-genetic or **-genic** [Greek *gennan* to produce] Producing, originating ([pathogenic](#), [parthenogenetic](#)).

-glossa [Greek *glossa* tongue] Having the type of tongue indicated by the root or prefix (*Toxoglossa*).

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-gnath [Greek *genys* jaw, cheek] Denotes the jaw ([chaetognath](#)).

-gnathic [Greek *genys* jaw, cheek] Affected by the condition of jaw of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (eurygnathic).

-gnathy [Greek *genys* jaw, cheek] Condition of the jaw of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (prognathy).

-gnosis (pl -gnoses) [Greek *gnosis* knowledge] Denotes knowledge ([diagnosis](#), [prognosis](#)).

-gog or **-gogue** [Greek *agogos* leading] To drive, to make flow, to elicit ([galactagogue](#), [ptyalagogue](#)).

-gram [modern Latin *gramma* record of instrument measurements] Tracing, mark, drawing, writing, or record of the type indicated by the root or prefix (electrocardiogram).

-graph [Greek *graphos* written] Denotes a record, writing, or representation of the thing or in the way indicated by the stem or prefix ([pneograph](#)).

-graphia [Greek *graphos* written] Writing of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([dermographia](#)).

-graphic or **-graphical** [Greek *graphos* written] Written, or relating to writing ([chronographic](#)).

-graphy [Greek *graphos* written] Denotes a process of writing or recording (adenography).

-gyn [Greek *gyne* woman] Plant having the number or type of pistils indicated by the stem or prefix (androgyn).

-gyne [Greek *gyne* woman] (1) a woman of the sort indicated by the stem or prefix (androgyn); (2) one having female reproductive organs of the sort indicated by the stem or prefix ([Homogyne alpina](#)).

-gynous [Greek *gyne* woman] Pertaining to women or females (tetragynous).

-gyny [Greek *gyne* woman] Having females; having female organs, esp. pistils (polygyny).

-haemia or **-hemia** See: [-emia](#).

-hedral [Greek *hedra* seat] Having the number of surfaces or type of surface indicated by the stem or prefix (decahedral).

-hedron [Greek *hedra* seat] Three-dimensional figure, object, or structure having the number of surfaces or type of surface indicated by the stem or prefix (polyhedron).

-hood [Old English *-hād*, akin to Germanic *-heit* state, condition] State, condition (adulthood, likelihood).

-humeral [Latin *humerus* upper arm, shoulder] Denotes the [humerus](#) ([radiohumeral](#)).

-i [Latin genitive ending *-i*] In the construction of scientific names this suffix is added to a person's name to indicate an association of that individual with the organism in question. For example, *Sepia smithi* is the scientific name of Smith's cuttlefish.

-ia [Latin feminine singular ending *-ia*] Pathological state ([anemia](#)).

-ia [Latin neuter plural ending *-ia*] In systematics, a taxonomic division, esp. a genus, order or class (Ichthyosauria).

-ial See: [-al](#).

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-ian See: [-an](#).

-iasis [Greek *iasis* [infection](#)] Condition, infestation, pathological state or its cause, as indicated by the stem or prefix ([nematodiasis](#)).

-iatry or **-iatics** [Greek *iatros* physician] The field of medicine dealing with or treating the thing indicated by the stem or prefix ([geriatrics](#), [pediatrics](#)).

-ible [Latin *-bilis* capable of] Capable of being or doing the thing indicated by the stem or prefix ([miscible](#)).

-ic or **-ical** [Latin adjective ending *-icus*] Having the nature of, like, pertaining to ([ichthyic](#), biological).

-icle or **-icule** [Latin diminutive ending *-iculum*] Small ([vesicle](#)).

-ics [*-ic* + *-s*] The study or knowledge of ([genetics](#)).

-ida [Latin ending *-ides*] In [zoological taxonomy](#): an ending indicating an [order](#) or [class](#) ([Arachnida](#)).

-idae [Latin ending *-ides*] In [zoological taxonomy](#): an ending indicating a group of [familial](#) rank ([Canidae](#), [Felidae](#), [Spheniscidae](#)).

-ide [French ending *-ide*] (1) in a binary chemical compound, an ending added to the name of whichever of the two elements is nonmetallic or has a greater affinity for electrons (sulfide); (2) a derivative, as glucoside is derived from [glucose](#).

-idium (pl **-idia** or **-idiums**) [Greek diminutive ending *-idion*] Small or lesser one (basidium).

-iensis See: [-ensis](#).

-iferous See: [-ferous](#).

-iform See: [-form](#).

-iformes [pl of Latin *-iformis* -formed, -shaped] In [taxonomic](#) names: ones having the shape indicated by the stem or prefix ([Acipenseriformes](#), [Sphenisciformes](#)).

-ily See: [-ly](#) (this suffix occurs in adverbs formed from adjectives ending in *y*, e.g., speedy, speedily).

-in [Latin ending *-ina*] (1) an antibiotic or other drug (ampicillin); (2) a hormone (adrenalin); (3) a vitamin (biotin).

-inae [Latin plural feminine ending] In [zoological taxonomy](#): an ending indicating a group of [subfamilial](#) rank ([Carduelinae](#)).

-ine [Latin ending *-ina*] (1) of, relating to (alpine, canine, estuarine, riverine); (2) chemical substance or element (chlorine, adenine); (3) drug (morphine, dexedrine).

-ing [Old English *-ung*, *-ing*] (1) action, process ([preying](#), wading); (2) product of, or associated with an action or process (gelding).

-ion [Latin *-io*] Act, result, or state of.

-isation See: [ization](#).

-ise See: [ize](#).

-ism or **-ismus** [Latin *-ismus*, Greek *-ismos*] (1) a condition indicated by the stem or prefix (autism, strabismus); (2) theory (neo-Darwinism).

-ist or **-istes** [Latin *-ista*, Greek *-istes* endings forming agent nouns] One who, or that which, does the action, or specializes in the thing, indicated by the stem or prefix ([Euleutherodactylus polemistes](#), psychiatrist).

-ite [Latin ending *-ites*] (1) produced by, resembling ([catabolite](#)); (2) member of a group ([sporozoite](#)); (3) a salt of an acid ([nitrite](#)).

-ites /EYE-deez or EYE-teez/ [Latin ending *-ites*] Fossil that is like, or that is from, the thing indicated by the stem or prefix ([Ammonoceratites](#)).

-ites /EYE-teez/ A plural of [-itis](#).

-itic [Latin adjective ending *-iticus*] Resembling, characterized by ([trilobitic](#)).

-itides /EYED-ə-deez/ A plural of [-itis](#).

-itious [Latin adjective ending *-itius*] Of, pertaining to, or like the thing indicated by the stem or prefix ([adventitious](#)).

-itis [Greek ending *-itis*] Disease, inflammation ([arthritis](#)).

-itises /EYE-də-səz, -tə-səz/ A plural of [-itis](#).

-itol Hydroxy alcohol (iditol).

-ity [Latin ending *-itas*] Quality, state ([toxicity](#)).

-ium [*-ium* Latin neuter ending] (1) chemical element ([sodium](#)); (2) chemical radical ([ammonium](#)); (3) small one (pl. -iums or -ia) ([onchium](#)); (4) mass, structure (pl. -iums or -ia) ([pericardium](#), [pollinium](#)).

-ive [Latin *-ivus*] Tending to, performing ([contraceptive](#)).

-ivora See: [-vora](#).

-ivore See: [-vore](#).

-ivorous See: [-vorous](#).

-ization (British: **-isation**) [Greek *-izein*] State, result, condition of the sort indicated by the stem or prefix ([catheterization](#)).

-ize (British: **-ise**) [Greek suffix *-izein*] (1) cause to become the thing indicated by the stem or prefix ([ionize](#)); (2) to make, to treat by a method ([cauterize](#)).

-jugal [Latin *jugum* yoke] Denotes a [jugum](#) (maxillojugal).

-kinesis [Greek *kinesis* motion] Motion ([cytokinesis](#)).

-labial [Latin *labium* lip] Pertaining to the lips ([buccoqingival](#)).

-lagos or **-lagus** [Greek *lagos* hare] Hare (Dendrolagus = "tree hare," the generic name for tree kangaroos).

-lalia or **-laly** [Greek *lalia* chatter] Denotes a speech disorder of a type suggested by the prefix, especially one involving articulation of sounds ([echolalia](#)).

-lemma [Greek *lemma* rind, husk] Covering, sheath, membrane, envelope (axolemma).

-lepis [Greek *lepis* flake, scale] In [taxonomic](#) names: Denotes flake(s) or scale(s) ([Quercus chrysolepis](#)).

-lepsia or **-lepsis** or **-lepsy** [Greek *lepsis* seizure] Seizure ([epilepsy](#)).

-less [from Old English *leas* devoid, untrue] (1) lacking, free from, without (airless, childless, venomless, countless); (2) unable to be affected by (tireless).

-lite or **-lith** [Greek *lithos* stone] Stone, calculus ([gastrolith](#), [phytolith](#)).

-logia See: [-logy](#).

-logist [Greek *logos* explanation, law, theory, reasoning, speech] Specialist or expert in the subject indicated by the root or prefix ([biologist](#)).

-logy or **-logia** [Greek *logos* explanation, law, theory, reasoning, speech] Doctrine, theory, discipline, science or study of the thing indicated by the root or prefix ([biology](#), [pathology](#), [zoology](#)).

-lumbar [Latin *lumbus* [loins](#)] Denotes the loins ([sacrolumbar](#)).

-ly [Old English *-lic* like, similar] (1) similar, being like (motherly); (2) in the way indicated by the stem (wrongly); (3) occurring at the specified interval (yearly).

-lyse See: [-lyze](#).

-lysis [Greek *lysis* loosing, breaking up, parting, releasing] Destruction, disintegration, decomposition, breaking up (autolysis, [catalysis](#)).

-lyte [Greek *lysis* loosing, breaking up, parting, releasing] Product of breakdown or decomposition ([electrolyte](#)).

-lytic [Greek *lysis* loosing, breaking up, parting, releasing] Destroying, loosening, causing disintegration or decomposition ([cytolytic](#), [catalytic](#)).

-lyze (British: **-lyse**) [Greek *lysis* loosing, breaking up, parting, releasing] Undergo or cause to undergo decomposition or disintegration ([catalyze](#)).

-ma See: [-oma](#).

-malacia [Greek *malaxis* softening] Denotes softening of the thing indicated by the root or prefix (hepatomalacia).

-mania [Latin *mania* mania, mental disorder] Mania, obsession (dipsomania).

-megaly [Greek *megas*, *megale* big, great, full-grown, vast, high] Denotes enlargement of the thing indicated by the root or prefix ([hepatomegaly](#)).

-ment or **-meant** or **-mentum** [Latin *-mentum* (shortened in Middle French and English to *-ment*)] Condition, process, agent, means or place of action ([cementum](#), [integument](#)).

-mer or **-meride** [Greek *meros* share, portion, part] Something having the number or type of segments or parts indicated by the root or prefix ([dimer](#)).

-mere [Greek *meros* share, portion, part] Portion or segment of the type indicated by the root or prefix ([centromere](#)).

-meris [Greek *meros* share, portion, part] (in [taxonomic](#) names) One having part(s) or segment(s) of the type or number indicated by the root or prefix ([Trimeris](#)).

-merism [Greek *meros* share, portion, part] (1) possession of the number of parts indicated by the prefix ([dimerism](#)); (2) relationship of parts indicated by the prefix ([tautomerism](#))

-merous [Greek *meros* share, portion, part] Having the number or type of parts or segments indicated by the root or prefix ([polymerous](#)).

-mery [Greek *meros* share, portion, part] State or condition of having parts or segments of the type or number indicated by the root or prefix ([dimeric](#)).

-meter [Greek *metron* measure, rule] (1) instrument measuring the thing indicated by the root or prefix (thermometer); (2) a length consisting of the number of meters indicated by the root or prefix (kilometer).

-metra [Greek *metra* [uterus](#)] Of or relating to the uterus ([physometra](#)).

-metrium (pl **metria**) [Greek *metra* [uterus](#)] Denotes a part or layer of the uterus ([endometrium](#)).

-metry [Greek *metron* measure, rule] Measurement, or the profession of measuring, the thing indicated by the root or prefix (optometry).

-mimesis [Greek *mimeomai* to mimic, imitate, represent] Mimicking the condition indicated by the root or prefix (necromimesis).

-morph [Greek *morphe* form, shape, kind, sort] Having the form, being of the type indicated by the root or prefix ([lagomorph](#)).

-myia [Greek *myia* fly] Denotes a fly or flylike insect ([Lutzomyia](#)).

-mys [Greek *mys* mouse] Denotes a mouse or mouselike animal ([Oenomys](#)).

-myxa [Greek *myxa* mucus] One(s) composed of slime of the type indicated by the root or prefix ([Pelomyxa](#)).

-kinesis [Greek *kinesis* motion] Motion ([cytokinesis](#)).

-labial [Latin *labium* lip] Pertaining to the lips ([buccoqingival](#)).

-lagos or **-lagus** [Greek *lagos* hare] Hare (Dendrolagus = "tree hare," the generic name for tree kangaroos).

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-lemma [Greek *lemma* rind, husk] Covering, sheath, membrane, envelope (axolemma).

-lepis [Greek *lepis* flake, scale] In [taxonomic](#) names: Denotes flake(s) or scale(s) ([Quercus chrysolepis](#)).

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-logy or **-logia** [Greek *logos* explanation, law, theory, reasoning, speech] Doctrine, theory, discipline, science or study of the thing indicated by the root or prefix ([biology](#), [pathology](#), [zoology](#)).

-lumbar [Latin *lumbus* [loins](#)] Denotes the loins ([sacro-lumbar](#)).

-ly [Old English *-lic* like, similar] (1) similar, being like (motherly); (2) in the way indicated by the stem (wrongly); (3) occurring at the specified interval (yearly).

-lyse See: [-lyze](#).

-lysis [Greek *lysis* loosing, breaking up, parting, releasing] Destruction, disintegration, decomposition, breaking up (autolysis, [catalysis](#)).

-lyte [Greek *lysis* loosing, breaking up, parting, releasing] Product of breakdown or decomposition ([electrolyte](#)).

-lytic [Greek *lysis* loosing, breaking up, parting, releasing] Destroying, loosening, causing disintegration or decomposition ([cytolytic](#), [catalytic](#)).

-lyze (British: **-lyse**) [Greek *lysis* loosing, breaking up, parting, releasing] Undergo or cause to undergo decomposition or disintegration ([catalyze](#)).

-ma See: [-oma](#).

-malacia [Greek *malaxis* softening] Denotes softening of the thing indicated by the root or prefix (hepatomalacia).

-mania [Latin *mania* mania, mental disorder] Mania, obsession (dipsomania).

-megaly [Greek *megas*, *megale* big, great, full-grown, vast, high] Denotes enlargement of the thing indicated by the root or prefix ([hepatomegaly](#)).

-ment or **-meant** or **-mentum** [Latin *-mentum* (shortened in Middle French and English to *-ment*)] Condition, process, agent, means or place of action ([cementum](#), [integument](#)).

-mer or **-meride** [Greek *meros* share, portion, part] Something having the number or type of segments or parts indicated by the root or prefix ([dimer](#)).

-mere [Greek *meros* share, portion, part] Portion or segment of the type indicated by the root or prefix ([centromere](#)).

-meris [Greek *meros* share, portion, part] (in [taxonomic](#) names) One having part(s) or segment(s) of the type or number indicated by the root or prefix ([Trimeris](#)).

-merism [Greek *meros* share, portion, part] (1) possession of the number of parts indicated by the prefix ([dimerism](#)); (2) relationship of parts indicated by the prefix ([tautomerism](#))

-merous [Greek *meros* share, portion, part] Having the number or type of parts or segments indicated by the root or prefix ([polymerous](#)).

-mery [Greek *meros* share, portion, part] State or condition of having parts or segments of the type or number indicated by the root or prefix ([dimeric](#)).

-meter [Greek *metron* measure, rule] (1) instrument measuring the thing indicated by the root or prefix (thermometer); (2) a length consisting of the number of meters indicated by the root or prefix (kilometer).

-metra [Greek *metra* [uterus](#)] Of or relating to the uterus ([physometra](#)).

-metrium (pl **metria**) [Greek *metra* [uterus](#)] Denotes a part or layer of the uterus ([endometrium](#)).

-metry [Greek *metron* measure, rule] Measurement, or the profession of measuring, the thing indicated by the root or prefix (optometry).

-mimesis [Greek *mimeomai* to mimic, imitate, represent] Mimicking the condition indicated by the root or prefix (necromimesis).

-morph [Greek *morphe* form, shape, kind, sort] Having the form, being of the type indicated by the root or prefix ([lagomorph](#)).

-myia [Greek *myia* fly] Denotes a fly or flylike insect ([Lutzomyia](#)).

-mys [Greek *mys* mouse] Denotes a mouse or mouselike animal ([Oenomys](#)).

-myxa [Greek *myxa* mucus] One(s) composed of slime of the type indicated by the root or prefix ([Pelomyxa](#)).

-nema (pl **-nemata**) [Greek *nema, nemata* thread] Threadlike ([pachynema](#)).

-ness [Old English *-nes, -nis*] Quality of, state of, measure of (darkness, awareness, oneness).

-neura [Greek *neuron* nerve, sinew, cord] One(s) having nerves or veins of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([Choristoneura](#)).

-nomy [Greek *noma* distributing, ordering] Laws of, or knowledge as a whole, regarding a particular field ([taphonomy](#), [taxonomy](#)).

-nym See: [-onym](#).

-nymy See: [-onymy](#).

-nyxis /nik-səs/ (pl **-nyxes** /nik-seez/) [Greek *nyxis* a pricking or stabbing] Puncture ([scleronyxis](#)).

-ode or **-oid** [Greek *-odes, -oeides* -like] Shape, form, likeness; usually denotes resemblance ([nematode](#)).

-odon [Greek *odous* something pointed; tooth, spike] In [taxonomic](#) names: One(s) having teeth of the sort indicated by the stem or prefix ([Diodon](#)).

-odont [Greek *odous* something pointed; tooth, spike] Having teeth of the sort indicated by the stem or prefix ([megadont](#)).

-odontia or **-odonty** [Greek *odous* something pointed; tooth, spike] Condition of having teeth of the sort indicated by the stem or prefix (macrodontia).

-odus [Greek *odous* something pointed; tooth, spike] Indicates an animal with teeth of the sort indicated by the stem or prefix ([Ceratodus](#)).

-odynia See: [-dynia](#).

-oesophageal See: [-esophageal](#).

-oid [Greek *-odes, -oeides* -like] Denotes resemblance ([cormoid](#)).

-oida or **-odea** or **-oidei** [Greek *-odes, -oeides* -like] Animals of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (Ganoidea, Anguilloidei).

-ole [Latin *-olus, -ola, -olum* diminutive suffixes] Diminutive, indicating small size ([arteriole](#)).

-ologia or **-ology** See: [-logia](#), [-logy](#).

-oma (pl **-omas**, **-omata**) [Greek *-oma*, *-omata*] Swelling, tumor ([carcinoma](#), [sarcoma](#)).

-omphalos or **-omphalus** [Greek *omphalos* navel, umbilical cord] (1) condition of the navel (acromphalus); (2) condition of the [umbilical cord](#) (exomphalos).

-on [neuter form of Greek *-os*] (1) basic genetic element (operon, cistron); (2) inert gas (argon).

-ont [Greek *on* being (pres. participle of *einein*)] Living being, cell, organism (gamont).

-onychia or **-onyxis** [Greek *onyx* talon, claw] Condition of the fingernails or toenails of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (brachyonychia).

-onychium [Greek *onyx* talon, claw] A region of, or one having fingernails or toenails, of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (hyponychium).

-onym [Greek *onoma* name] Name, word ([caconym](#)).

-onymy [Greek *onoma* name] (1) State of being names or words of the type indicated by the root or prefix (synonymy); (2) study of names or words of the type indicated by the root or prefix (phytonymy).

-ophthalmos [Greek *ophthalmos* eye] Having eyes of the type, or having a condition of the eyes of the type, indicated by the stem or prefix (exophthalmos).

-opia or **-opsia** or **-opy** [Greek *ops* eye, face] (1) vision or condition of vision of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (myopia); (2) having eyes of the type, or having a disease of the type, indicated by the prefix (erythropia).

-ops [Greek *ops* eye, face] One having the type of eyes or face indicated by the stem or prefix ([Tursiops](#)).

-or [Latin *-or*] One who, that which (repressor).

-orchid [Greek *orchis* testicle] An individual affected by the condition of the [testicle](#) indicated by the stem or prefix ([cryptorchid](#)).

-orchidism [Greek *orchis* testicle] Condition of the [testicle](#) indicated by the stem or prefix ([cryptorchidism](#)).

-orexia [Greek *orexis* desire, appetite] Appetite ([anorexia](#)).

-orexic [Greek *orexis* desire, appetite] Denotes the condition of appetite indicated by the stem or prefix ([anorexic](#)).

-ornis (pl **ornithes**) [Greek *ornis* bird] In [taxonomic](#) names: bird of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([Agapornis](#)). See also: [-cornis](#).

-ory [Latin *-orius*] Belonging to, connected with (laboratory).

-osis [Greek *-osis*] (1) condition, disease, action; typically denotes production or increase (halitosis); (2) invasion or increase of parasites within an organism ([trichinosis](#)).

-ostosis [Greek *osteon* bone + *-osis*] (1) bony growth of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([hyperostosis](#)); (2) formation of an osseous tumor of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([endostosis](#)).

-ostraca [Greek *ostrakon* shell] In taxonomic names (usually of [crustaceans](#)): shell, shelled ([Leptostraca](#)).

-otic [Greek *-otikos*] (1) of or relating to the thing indicated by the stem or prefix ([biotic](#)); (2) of or relating to the ear or a part of the ear ([diotic](#)).

-ous [Latin *-us*] Abounding in, having, possessing ([filamentous](#)).

-paedic See: [-pedic](#).

-para [Latin *parare* give birth to; beget, bring forth] Woman giving birth to the number of children indicated by the prefix ([nullipara](#)).

-path [Greek *pathe* suffering, misfortune] One who is diseased or suffering (psychopath).

-pathic [Greek *pathe* suffering, misfortune] Pertaining to disease or suffering (homeopathic).

-pathy [Greek *pathe* suffering, misfortune] Disease, suffering ([nephropathy](#)).

-ped or **-pede** [Latin *pes, pedis* foot] Foot, having feet, having feet of the sort or number indicated by the stem or prefix (millipede).

-pedia [Greek *pous, podos, podi, poa* foot] Condition of the feet ([antennapedia](#)).

-pedic (British: **-paedic**) [Latin *pes, pedis* foot] Relating to the feet ([orthopedic](#)).

-penia [Greek *pedia* lack, poverty] Lack, decrease, deficiency (thrombocytopenia).

-pepsia [Greek *pepsis* digestion] Denotes digestion or the digestive tract (colodyspepsia).

-pexy /PECK-see/ [Greek *pexis* putting together, connection] Suspension, fixation, or fastening of the organ(s) or part(s) indicated by the stem or prefix (phrenocolopexy).

-phaga /Fə-gə/ or **-phage** /fāj/ or **-phagist** /FĀJ-ist/ or **-phagus** /Fə-gəs/ [Greek *phagein* to eat] One(s) eating or destroying the thing indicated by the stem or prefix ([bacteriophage](#)).

-phagia /FĀJ-(ee)-yə/ or **-phagy** /FĀJ-ee/ [Greek *phagein* to eat] The sort of eating indicated by the stem or prefix ([bacteriophagy](#)).

-phagous /Fə-gəs/ [Greek *phagein* to eat] Eating the thing indicated by the stem or prefix ([hematophagous](#), [phyllophagous](#), [phytophagous](#)).

-phasia /FĀ-zhə/ also **-phasy** /fə-see/ [Greek *-phasia* speech] Denotes a speech disorder of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (aphasia).

-pheresis /fə-REE-səs/ [Greek *pherein* to carry] Denotes removal, taking away, or extraction (plasmapheresis).

-phil or **-phile** or **-philus** /f(ə)-ləs/ [Greek *phileo* to love, regard with affection] One that loves or is attracted or tends to the thing indicated by the stem or prefix ([azurophil](#)).

-philia /FEEL-ee-yə/ or **-phily** /f(ə)-lee/ [Greek *phileo* to love, regard with affection] (1) attraction to, tendency toward, or abnormal appetite for the thing indicated by the stem or prefix (agoraphilia).

-philic /FILL-ick/ or **-philous** /FILL-əs/ [Greek *phileo* to love, regard with affection] Attracted to, liking, or suited to the thing indicated by the stem or prefix ([hydrophilic](#)).

-phobia /FŌ-bee-ə/ [Greek *phobos* fear] Fear of the thing indicated by the stem or prefix (agoraphobia).

-phobic /FŌ-bick/ [Greek *phobos* fear] Fearful of the thing indicated by the stem or prefix (arachnophobic).

-phone [Greek *phonema* sound, utterance] Sound, utterance (cardiophone).

-phor or **-phore** [Greek *phoros* bearing] Carrier (gametophore).

-phora or **-phorae** or **-phorum** [Greek *phoros* bearing] One(s) bearing the structure indicated by the stem or prefix ([Stylophorum](#)).

-phoresis /fore-EE-səs/ [Greek *phoresis* being borne] Transmission ([electrophoresis](#)).

-phoria /FORE-ee-yə/ [Greek *phoros* bearing] Tendency or bearing of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([dysphoria](#)).

-phorous [Greek *phoros* bearing] Carrying ([phyllophorous](#)).

-phrenia [Greek *phren* mind] Denotes mental disorder (schizophrenia).

-phthisis /TĪ-səs/ [Greek *phthio* to decay, wane, waste away] Wasting away, [phthisis](#) (myelophthisis).

-phthora /fə-thə-rə/ [Greek *phthora* destruction, death] In [generic](#) names of [fungi](#): Destroyer of the thing indicated by the stem or prefix ([Phytophthora](#)).

-phthorales /fə-thə-RAWL-lees/ [Greek *phthora* destruction, death] In [ordinal](#) names of [fungi](#): Destroyer of the thing indicated by the stem or prefix ([Entomophthorales](#)).

-phyceae /FICE-ee-ee/ [Greek *phykos* seaweed] In [taxonomic](#) names of algae: Seaweed ([Rhodophyceae](#)).

-phylaxis /fə-LAK-sis/ [Greek *phylakeia* guard, protection] Protection ([anaphylaxis](#)).

-phyll /fill/ [Greek *phyllon* leaf] (1) leaf; (2) pigment in plant cells ([chlorophyll](#)).

-phylla or **-phyllum** [Greek *phyllon* leaf] Leaf, plant fossil resembling (indicated) group; having leaflike parts ([bulbophyllum](#)).

-physis [Greek *physis* nature] Growth of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([epiphysis](#), [symphysis](#)).

-phyta [Greek *phyton* plant] In [taxonomic](#) names: Plants ([Magnoliophyta](#)).

-phyte [Greek *phyton* plant] Plant having the trait indicated by the stem or prefix ([epiphyte](#)).

-picrin [Greek *pikros* bitter] Bitter (chloropicrin).

-pithecus or **-pithecine** [Greek *pithekos* ape, monkey] Ape ([australopithecine](#), [Ardipithecus](#), [Gigantopithecus](#)).

-plakia [Greek *plakes* plates] Plaque (leukoplakia).

-plasia /PLAY-zhə/ [Greek *plasm* anything formed or molded] Formation or development of a type indicated by the stem or prefix ([dysplasia](#)).

-plasm /PLAZ-əm/ [Greek *plasm* anything formed or molded] Denotes something formed or shaped in the way, or by the thing indicated by the prefix ([cytoplasm](#), [neoplasm](#)).

-plast [Greek *plasm* anything formed or molded] (1) Something formed of the type or in the way indicated by the stem or prefix (autoplast); (2) particle, small mass ([blepharoplast](#)); (3) cell ([chloroplast](#), [chromoplast](#), [leucoplast](#)).

-plastic [Greek *plasm* anything formed or molded] (1) developing or growing in a way indicated by the stem or prefix (endoplastic); (2) adjectival equivalent of a noun ending in *-plasm*, *plast*, or *plasty* (cytoplasmic).

-plasty [Greek *plasm* anything formed or molded] Surgical repair of the thing indicated by the stem or prefix (hernioplasty).

-plegia /PLEEJ-(ee)-yə/ or **-plegy** /PLEEJ-ee/ [Greek *plege* stroke, blow] Denotes stroke or paralysis (hemiplegia).

-ploid [modern scientific origin (early 20th century) by parallel construction based on the original [haploid](#) from Greek *haploides* single, and [diploid](#) from Greek *diploos* double] Having the number of [sets of chromosomes](#) indicated by the prefix ([triploidy](#), [tetraploidy](#), [hexaploidy](#)).

-ploidy [for derivation see *-ploid*] Condition of having the number of [sets of chromosomes](#) indicated by the prefix ([tetraploid](#), [hexaploid](#), [allopolyploid](#), [autopolyploid](#)).

-pnea (British: **-pnoea**) /(pə)-NEE-ə/ [Greek *pneo* to breathe] Breath, breathing ([apnea](#)).

-pneusta /(pə)-N(Y)OO-stə/ [Greek *pneo* to breathe] Ones having the mode of breathing indicated by the stem or prefix ([Enteropneusta](#)).

-pod or **-poda** or **-pode** or **-podium** [Greek *pous, podos, podi, poa* foot] One(s) having feet of the sort indicated by the stem or prefix ([Lycopodium](#), [Theropoda](#)).

-podia [Greek *pous, podos, podi, poa* foot] Condition of the feet (micropodia).

-podite [Greek *pous, podos, podi, poa* foot] Segment or appendage of an arthropod (exopodite).

-poiesis /poy-EE-səs/ [Greek *poiesis* fabrication, creation, production] Production, formation (leukopoiesis).

-poietic /poy-ET-ick, -ED-ick/ [Greek *poiesis* fabrication, creation, production] Productive, forming (allopoietic).

-ptera [Greek *pteron* feathers, wing, winged one] One(s) having the type or number of wings indicated by the stem or prefix (Diptera).

-pteris /TARE-əs, TIR-əs/ [Greek *pteris* fern] In [generic](#) names: Fern ([Dryopteris](#), [Pecopteris](#)).

-pteros [Greek *pteron* feathers, wing, winged one] Having the type or number of wings indicated by the stem or prefix ([apterous](#)).

-pterygus (pl **pterygii**) [Greek *pteron* feathers, wing, winged one] Winged one(s) having the type of wings indicated by the stem or prefix ([Acanthopterygii](#)).

-pteryx [Greek *pteron* feathers, wing, winged one] Winged or finned one having the type of wings/fins indicated by the stem or prefix ([Archaeopteryx](#)).

-ptile [Greek *pteron* feathers, wing, winged one] Down, feather ([coleoptile](#)).

-ptosis /TŌ-səs/ [Greek *ptosis* fall, collapse] Sagging, downward displacement, or prolapse of the part indicated by the stem or prefix (nephroptosis).

-ptysis /pə-TŌ-səs/ [Greek *ptyalon* sputum, saliva] A condition of the saliva ([hemoptysis](#)).

-pyga or **-pygus** [Greek *pyge* rump, buttocks] One having a rump of the sort indicated by the stem or prefix (bipygus).

-pyrosis [Greek *pyr* fire] Burning sensation of the part indicated by the stem or prefix (glossopyrosis).

rachidia [Greek *rachis* spine] Denotes a condition of the spine of the kind indicated by the stem or prefix ([atorachidia](#)) — usually refers to the vertebral column, but can also refer to a spine of any kind, as the spine of a leaf.

-rhine or **-rrhine** [Greek *rhis* nose or snout] One having a nose or snout of the sort indicated by the stem or prefix ([catarrhine](#)).

-rhiza or **-rrhiza** [Greek *rhiza* root] Root; like or connected to a root ([Cotylorhiza tuberculata](#)).

-rrhage or **-rrhagia** [Greek *rhegni* to break asunder, rend] Excessive or abnormal flow or outflow ([hemorrhage](#)).

-rrhaphy [Greek *rhaphe* stitching, sewing] Suturing or stitching ([angiorrhaphy](#)).

-rrhea (British: **-rrhoea**) [Greek *rein* flow] Denotes a flow or outflow ([dacryorrhoea](#)).

-rrhexis [Greek *rhagma* a breakage or fracture] Rupture, splitting (ovariorrhexis).

-rrhine See: [-rhine](#).

-rrhiza See: [-rhiza](#).

-sarc [Greek *sarx* flesh] Flesh, soft tissue ([ectosarc](#), [endosarc](#)).

-saur or **-saura** or **-sauria** or **-saurus** [Greek *saura* lizard] Lizard; animals like lizards (dinosaur).

-schisis [Greek *schizein* to split or cleave] Fissure, breaking up (gastroschisis).

-sclerosis [Greek *skleros* hard] Drying, hardness (arteriosclerosis).

-scope [Greek *skopein* to examine] A means for viewing (microscope).

-scopic [Greek *skopein* to examine] Pertaining to a visual examination of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (endoscopic).

-scopy [Greek *skopein* to examine] Seeing, visual examination of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (microscopy).

-setose or **-setous** [Latin *saeta* hair, bristle] Having bristles of the type or number indicated by the stem or prefix ([bisetose](#)).

-sion See: [-ion](#).

-sis [Greek *-sis* an ending indicating a state or condition] Denotes a condition. See: [-iasis](#), [-osis](#), [-basia/-basis](#), [-biosis](#), [-clasia/-clasis](#), [-genesis](#), [-gnosis](#), [-kinesis](#), [-stasia/-stasis](#), [-stomosis](#).

-soma (pl **-somata**) [Greek *soma* body] In [taxonomic](#) names: one(s) having a body (or region of a body) of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([Trypanosoma](#)).

-some [Greek *soma* body] (1) chromosome; (2) region of a body; (3) a body of the type indicated by the root or prefix ([liposome](#), [lysosome](#), [melanosome](#)).

-spasm [Greek *spasmos* convulsion] Twitching, or involuntary contraction, of the thing indicated by the stem or prefix ([chirospasm](#)).

-sperma or **-spermum** [Greek *sperma* seed, semen, race, origin] In [taxonomic](#) names: one(s) having seeds of a certain type or number ([Pterospermum](#)).

-spermal or **-spermous** [Greek *sperma* seed, semen, race, origin] Having seeds of the type or number indicated by the stem or prefix (tetraspermous).

-spermy (pl **spermies**) [Greek *sperma* seed, semen, race, origin] Having seeds of a certain type or number (polyspermy).

-spora [Greek *sporos* sowing, seed, offspring, semen] In [taxonomic](#) names: Having [spores](#) of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([Neurospora](#)).

-spore [Greek *sporos* sowing, seed, offspring, semen] Seed, [spore](#) ([ascospore](#)).

-sporic (also **-sporous**) [Greek *sporos* sowing, seed, offspring, semen] Having [spores](#) of the type or number indicated by the stem or prefix (ascosporic).

-sporium [Greek *sporos* sowing, seed, offspring, semen] (1) layer of a spore wall (exosporium); (2) in [taxonomic](#) names: Having [spores](#) of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([Cladosporium](#)).

-spory (pl **-spories**) [Greek *sporos* sowing, seed, offspring, semen] Condition of having [spores](#) of the type or number indicated by the stem or prefix (heterospory).

-stasia or **-stasis** [Greek *stasis* condition of standing] (1) slowing, stoppage; (2) inhibition of growth ([homeostasis](#)); (3) a condition while standing of the sort indicated by the stem or prefix ([astasia](#)).

-stat [Greek *-states* something causing stasis] (1) tool for keeping something stable or controlled ([hemostat](#)); (2) agent inhibiting growth ([bacteriostat](#)).

-stega or **-stege** [Greek *stege* roof] In taxonomic names: Covering plate or layer (Ichthyostega).

-stemonous [Greek *stemon* warp, thread] Having stamens of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (diplostemonous).

-stomate or **-stomatous** [Greek *stoma, stomat-* mouth] Having a mouth of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([cyclostomate](#)).

-stome [Greek *stoma, stomat-* mouth] One with a mouth of the sort indicated by the stem or prefix (deuterostome).

-stomosis or **-stomy** [Greek *stoma, stomat-* mouth] Condition of providing with or having an outlet ([anastomosis](#)).

-stylous [style + -ous] mouth] Having [styles](#) of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (macrostylous).

-styly [style + -y] Condition of having [styles](#) of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (homostyly).

-tactic or **-taxial** [Greek *taxis* arrangement, order] (1) pertaining to arrangement, order, pattern ([chaetotactic](#)); (2) pertaining to movement of an organism in response to a stimulus of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([barotactic](#)).

-taph [Greek *taphos* funeral, tomb, grave] Burial, grave (epitaph).

-tarsal [Greek *tarsos podos* flat of the foot] Denotes the [tarsus](#) (tibiotarsal).

-taxia or **-taxis** or **-taxy** [Greek *taxis* arrangement, order] (1) arrangement, order, pattern ([chaetotaxy](#), [heterotaxis](#), [homotaxis](#)); (2) movement of an organism in response to a stimulus of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([barotaxis](#), [phototaxis](#)).

-thallus (pl **-thalli**) or **-thallium** (pl **-thallia**). [Latin *thallus* young green branch or shoot] Indicates a young branch or shoot of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([prothallium](#)).

-thamnia or **-thamnus** [Greek *thamnos* bush, shrub] Denotes a shrub with the characteristic indicated by the stem or prefix ([Lepidothamnus](#)).

-theca (pl **-thecae**) [Latin *theca* case, box, cover, envelope, container] Containing structure, covering, or sheath, of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([ootheca](#)).

-thecium (pl **-thecia**). [Latin *theca* case, box, cover, envelope, container] Small containing structure, covering, or sheath, of the type indicated by the stem or prefix (acrothecium).

-there (also **-therian**) [Greek *therion* wild animal] Beast, mammal (titanothera).

-therium (pl **-theria**) [Greek *therion* wild animal] In [taxonomic](#) names: Beast, mammal (Prototheria).

-therm [Greek *therme* heat] An animal having the mode of temperature regulation indicated by the stem or prefix ([endotherm](#)).

-thermia [Greek *therme* heat] Having the temperature level indicated by the stem or prefix (hypothermia).

-thymia [Greek *thymos* mind, spirit] The condition of the mind indicated by the stem or prefix (schizothymia).

-tibial [Latin *tibia* pipe, shinbone] Denotes the [tibia](#) ([femorotibial](#)).

-tic See: [-ic](#).

-tion See: [-ion](#).

-tokous [Greek *tokeus* father, sire] Producing, bearing ([arrhenotokous](#)).

-toky [Greek *tokeus* father, sire] Parentage, production, bearing, reproduction ([thelytoky](#)).

-tome [Greek *tomeus* one that cuts] (1) cutting instrument (microtome); (2) part, section ([gonotome](#)).

-tomy [Greek *tomos* cutting, sharp] (1) cutting, incision (lobotomy).

-topia [Greek *topos* place] Denotes the state of being in a place or location ([ectopia](#)).

-topic [Greek *topos* place] Denotes placement or location ([ectopic pregnancy](#)).

-toxic [Latin *toxicum* poison] Poisonous, [toxic](#) ([fetotoxic](#)).

-toxin [Latin *toxicum* poison] A [toxin](#) of the type indicated by the stem or prefix ([batrachotoxin](#), [hemotoxin](#), [neurotoxin](#)).

-trope [Greek *tropos* turn, direction, way] One exhibiting a [tropism](#) in response to the sort of stimulus indicated by the stem or prefix ([heliotrope](#)).

-troph [Greek *trophe* nourishment, food] One nourished or growing in the manner indicated by the the stem or prefix ([autotroph](#)).

-trophic [Greek *trophe* nourishment, food] Nourished or growing in the manner indicated by the the stem or prefix ([autotroph](#)).

-trophy [Greek *trophe* nourishment, food] Nourishment or growth of the type indicated by the the stem or prefix ([atrophy](#)).

-tropia or **-tropism** or **-tropy** [Greek *tropos* turn, direction, way] The manifestation of a [tropism](#) in response to the sort of stimulus indicated by the stem or prefix ([phototropism](#)).

-tropic or **-tropous** [Greek *tropos* turn, direction, way] Exhibiting a [tropism](#) in response to the sort of stimulus indicated by the stem or prefix ([homotropous](#)).

-tropium [Greek *tropos* turn, direction, way] An organism exhibiting a [tropism](#) in response to the stimulus indicated by the stem or prefix ([Heliotropium](#)).

-ty [English equivalent of Latin *-tas*] Quality, state, condition ([toxicity](#)).

-type [Latin *typus* figure, pattern, type, model] Something that is a figure, pattern, type, or model of the kind indicated by the stem or prefix ([karyotype](#)).

-typic [Latin *typus* figure, pattern, type, model] Of or pertaining to the kind of figure, pattern, type, or model indicated by the stem or prefix ([karyotypic](#), [polytypic](#)).

-typy [Latin *typus* figure, pattern, type, model] Condition of being a figure, pattern, type, or model of the kind indicated by the stem or prefix ([homotypy](#)).

-ula or **-ulae** or **-ule** or **-ulum** or **-ulus** [English *-ule* from Latin diminutive endings *-ulus*, *-ula*, *-ulum*, *-ulae*] Small one(s) ([blastula](#)).

-ulnar [Latin *ulna* forearm] Denotes the [ulna](#) ([humeroulnar](#), [radioulnar](#)).

-um See: [-ium](#).

-ura or **-uran** or **-urus** [Greek *oura* tail] One(s) having the condition of the tail(s) indicated by the stem or prefix ([Anura](#)).

-uria [Greek *ouron* [urine](#)] Denotes a condition of the [urine](#) ([albuminuria](#), [phenylketonuria](#), [pyuria](#), [saccharuria](#)).

-valent [Latin *valens* potent] During [synapsis](#) in [meiotic prophase I](#): composed of the number of [homologous chromosomes](#) indicated by the prefix ([bivalent](#), [quadrivalent](#), [trivalent](#)).

-vora [Latin *vorare* to swallow, devour] In [taxonomic](#) names: One that eats the thing indicated by the prefix or stem (Carnivora, Insectivora).

-vore [Latin *vorare* to swallow, devour] An organism that eats the thing indicated by the prefix or stem ([carnivore](#), [insectivore](#)).

-vorous [Latin *vorare* to swallow, devour] Eating the thing indicated by the prefix or stem ([carnivorous](#), [insectivorous](#)).

-ward or **-wards** [Old English suffix *-ward*; of Germanic origin, but related to Latin *vertere* to turn] In the direction of the the thing indicated by the stem or prefix (upward, homewards, toward).

-xylon [Greek *xylon* wood] (1) in [taxonomic](#) names: organism(s) having wood of a type or a relationship to wood of a type indicated by the stem or prefix; (2) wood ([Trochetiopsis erythroxylon](#)).

-y (also **-ey**) [Old English *-ig* comparative: **-ier**, superlative: **-iest** (1) characterized by, abundant in (woodsy); (2) made of, containing (clayey); (3) similar to, like (summery);

-yl In chemistry: denotes a radical ([methyl](#)).

-ylene In chemistry: denotes a bivalent hydrocarbon radical (methylene).

-zoa (sing **-zoan**) [Greek *zoon* animal] Denotes animals or, more broadly, living things ([protozoa](#)).

-zoic [[-zoa](#) + [-ic](#)] (1) having the animal mode of existence indicated by the stem or prefix ([coprozoic](#)); (2) relating to animal life or, more broadly, to life of any kind ([Mesozoic](#)).

-zygous [Greek *zygon* yoke, tying element] (1) yoked; (2) having a zygotic nature of a sort indicated by the stem or prefix ([heterozygous](#)).

-zyme [Greek *zymosis* fermentation] Enzyme ([allozyme](#), [enzyme](#)).

Root Word Dictionary

Greek Roots:

acantha — Thorn.

aden — [Gland](#).

adeps, adipis — Fat, grease; fatty tissue.

aetia — Cause.

aetos — Eagle.

agogos — Leading.

agra — Seizure.

aima — Blood.

aisthesis — Sensation, feeling.

akantha — Thorn.

akari — [Mite](#).

akouein — To hear.

Latin Roots:

ab — Departing from.

abavus — Great-great-grandfather.

abbatia, abbatiae — Abbey, monastery.

abdomen — [Abdomen](#).

aberrare — Wander, deviate.

abicere — Cast down, throw away.

abusio, abusionis — Improper use of a term, catachresis.

abluere — Wash away, purify.

accipiter, accipitris — Hawk.

acetum, aceti — Vinegar, sour wine.

acerbitas, acerbitatis — Harshness, severity.

acicula, aciculae — Small pin.

akris — Grasshopper.

akromion — [Acromion](#).

akros — Uppermost.

aktis — Ray.

algesia — Sense of pain.

amethystos — Amethyst.

amnion — [Amnion](#).

ampelos — Grapevine.

amphoos — Around, on both sides.

amphoreus — Amphora.

andros — Man.

anem — Wind.

angos — Vessel.

ankylos — Bent; fused.

anthax — Coal, carbuncle.

anthos — Flower.

anthropos — Human.

anti — Against.

aplanes — Fixed.

apo — Away from, off.

arachne — Spider.

arche — Beginning.

archein — To rule.

archos — [Anus](#).

arktos — Bear (the animal).

acidus, -a, -um — Sour.

acipenser, acipenseris — Sturgeon.

aculeus, aculei — Sting, spine, thorn, point, spike.

acumen, acuminis — Sharp point; spur; sting.

acus, acus — Needle, pin.

acutus, -a, -um — Sharp, pointed; severe; acute.

ad — To, up to, towards; near, at; on.

adducere — To lead to, bring to.

adjungere — To add, attach.

adjuvare — To help, aid.

aequus — Level, even, equal, like.

aer, aeris — Air, atmosphere, sky.

ager, agri — Field, farm.

agitatus, -a-, -um — Animated, lively, agile.

agnus, agni — Lamb.

albus, -a-, -um — White, pale, fair; bright, clear.

alius — Other, another; different, changed.

allium, alli(i) — Garlic.

allucinari — To prate, dream, or imagine.

ambo — Both.

ambulare — To walk, move about.

amplecti — Surround, encircle, embrace, clasp.

ampliare — Enlarge, augment, widen.

ampulla, ampullae — Bottle, jar.

amygdalum, amygdali — Almond; tonsil.

arteria — [Artery](#).

arthron — Joint.

askos — Bag.

aster — Star.

asthenes — Weak.

atelos — Imperfect, defective.

attikos — Upper part.

autos — Same, self.

auxeine — To increase.

axon — Axle, axis, [vertebra](#).

badisis — Walking, going.

balanos — Acorn, glans penis.

barys — Heavy.

batrachos — Frog.

amylum, amyli — Starch.

animal, animalis — Animal, creature, beast, living thing.

animatus, -a, -um — Alive, growing, endowed with spirit, anima

ante — In front, in view; before, facing.

anus, ani — [Anus](#).

apes, apis — Bee.

apex, apicis — Point, top, summit; cap, crown.

arbor, arboris — Tree.

argilla, argillae — Clay.

astrologia, astrologiae — Astrology, astronomy; knowledge/stu
the heavenly bodies as portents.

astronomia, astronomiae — Astronomy, astrology; science/stu
the heavenly bodies.

ater, atra -um — Black, dark.

atrium, atri(i) — Main room or chamber.

audire — To hear.

auris, auris — Ear.

aurum, auri — Gold.

australis, australis, australe — Southern.

avis, avis — Bird.

axilla, axillae — Armpit.

bilis — [Bile](#), [gall](#).

bis — Twice.

blatta — [Nocturnal](#) insect, especially: roach.

bonus, bona, bonum — Good, honest.

bathos — Depth.

bios — Way of life.

blastos — Bud.

blennos — Mucus.

blepharis — Eyelash.

blepharon — Eyelid.

bothros — Pit, cavity, trough.

botrys — Bunch of grapes.

brachys — Short.

bradys — Slow.

branchia — Gills.

bronchia — [Bronchi](#).

bryon — Moss.

chaite — Hair.

chalkos — [Copper](#).

cheilos — Lip.

chorein — To spread, advance, go.

choros — Place.

cheir — Hand, paw.

chloros — Green.

choane — Funnel.

choeros — Pig.

chole — [Bile](#), [gall](#).

chondrion — Small grain.

bos, bovis — Bull, cow, cattle.

brachium, brachi(i) — Arm.

bubo, bubonis — Horned owl, eagle owl.

bucca, buccae — Mouth, cheek.

bursa, bursae — Bag, purse.

caecum, caeca caecum, — Blind.

caedere — To chop, hew, murder, kill.

calcaneus, calcanei — Heel.

calvaria, calvariae — [Skull](#).

calvus, calva, calvum — Bald.

calcaneus, calcanei — Heel.

calx, calcis — Limestone, lime, chalk.

canis, canis — Dog.

capillus, capilli — Hair.

caris, caridis — Shrimp, prawn, kind of [crustacean](#).

carnis, carnis — Flesh, meat, the body.

catena, catenae — Chain, series, shackles, fetters.

cauda, caudae — Tail.

caulis, caulis — Stem.

centenus, -a, -um — One hundred.

cephalicus, -a, -um — Of or pertaining to the head.

cera, cerae — Wax.

cercopithecus, cercopithecī — Long-tailed monkey.

cerebrum, cerebri — Brain.

chondros — [Cartilage](#).

chordos — Cord.

chorion — Skin.

chroma, chromos — Color.

chronos — Time.

chrysos — Golden, yellow.

chrlos — Juice, [chlye](#).

clastos — Broken.

cranion — [Skull](#).

cervix, cervicis — Neck; narrow connecting structure.

cetus, ceti — Whale, dolphin.

chelys, chelyos — Tortoise, turtle.

circum — About, around, near, on both sides.

cis- — On; to this; near side of.

cochlea, cochleae — Snail.

coctus — Cooked, baked.

cohors, cohortis — Cohort (one-tenth of a Roman military legion).

colere — To live in a place, to inhabit.

coma, comae — Hair of the head, mane.

contra — Against, opposite, opposed, contrary.

conus, coni — Cone.

cor, cordis — Heart.

cornu, cornus — Horn, hoof, beak, claw.

cortex, corticis — Skin, rind, outer covering.

costa — Rib; side, flank, back.

coxa, coxae — Hip (of human), haunch (of animal).

crabro, crabronis — Hornet, wasp.

creta, cretae — Chalk.

crus, cruris — Leg, shank.

cubere — To lie in bed recline.

cubitus, cubiti — Elbow, forearm, [ulna](#).

culina, culinae — Kitchen. cooking.

culinarius, culinaria, culinarium — Of or related to the kitchen culinary.

dacron — Tear (shed from the eye).

dactylos — Finger.

dein — To bind.

deka — Ten.

demas — Body.

demos — Populace.

dendron — Tree.

dere — Neck.

derma — Skin.

dia — Through, by.

didymos — Twin, [testis](#).

diploos — Twofold, double.

dipsa — Thirst.

dis — Double, twice.

dramein — To run.

drys — Tree, oak.

dynamis — Power.

dyo — Two.

dyodeka — Twelve.

echinos — Hedgehog or sea urchin.

echo — Echo.

cum — Together, with, common.

cuneus, cunei — Wedge.

cutis, cutis — Skin.

de — Down from, away from, from, off.

decem, decimus, -a, -um — Ten.

dens, dentis — Tooth; tooth-like thing.

dexter, dextra, -um — Right, on the right hand; skillful.

dimidiare — To halve.

discus, disci — Disc, discus.

dorsum, dorsi — Back.

draco, draconis — Dragon, snake.

ducere — To lead.

epilepsia, epilepsiae — [Epilepsy](#).

equus, equi — Horse.

ex — Out of, from, because of, as a result of.

excitare — To excite.

exterus — Outer, external, outward, far, foreign.

extra — Outside of, beyond, beside, except.

facere — To do, make, create, cause.

facies, faciei — Shape, face, appearance.

fauces — [Pharynx](#).

febris, febris — Fever.

feles, felis — Cat.

ecto — Outside.

edmenai — To eat.

eikosi — Twenty.

eilein — To twist.

eiresis — Take.

ek — Out of, from.

ektropion — A turning or movement outward.

elaion — Oil.

elastikos — Elastic.

elkosis — Ulceration.

eleutheros — Free.

elytron — [Vagina](#).

emein — To vomit.

emmena — [Menses](#).

endon — Within.

enkephalos — Brain.

enteron — [Intestine](#).

entomon — Insect.

eos — Dawn.

epar — Liver.

ependyma — Wrap.

epi — Upon.

episeion — [Pudenda](#).

eremia — Lack.

ergon — Work.

femina, feminae — Woman.

fero, ferre — To bring, bear, carry, produce.

ferrum, ferri — Iron.

fetus, fetus — Offspring.

fibula — Clasp, brooch.

figura, figurae — Form, shape, figure.

filix, filicis — Fern, bracken.

filum, fili — Thread.

flavus, flava, flavum — Yellow, golden.

flumen, fluminis — River.

forma, formae — Form, shape, model.

frons, frontis — Forehead, face, front, fore part.

fugere — Put to flight

erythros — Red.

eteros — Other.

ethmos — Sieve.

ethnos — Nation.

eurys — Wide.

eus — Good.

F: — In English words of Greek origin, and therefore in the transliterations of Greek words given on this website, the sound of *f* is indicated by the spelling *ph*.

gala, galact- — Milk.

Galen — The Roman physician, surgeon and philosopher.

galeos — Shark.

gamia — Marriage.

gaster — Belly.

gennan — To produce.

glottis, glossa — Tongue.

glykys — Sweet (see also: [hedys](#)).

gnathos — Jaw.

gonos — Genitals, seed, offspring, procreation.

graphos — Written.

gymnos — Naked.

gyne — Woman.

habros — Delicate.

haploeides — Single.

galea, galeae — Helmet.

gallus, galli — Cock, rooster.

gallina, gallinae — Hen.

gelare — To freeze.

gelidus, -a, -um — Cold, icy, freezing.

geminus, -a, -um — Twinned, doubled, paired.

generatim — According to categories; in general.

generare — To beget, to father.

genu, genus — Knee.

genus, generis — Kind, sort.

gingiva, gingivae — Gum(s).

gladius, gladii — Sword; swordfish.

glaucus, -a, -um — Bluish gray.

gravius, -a, -um — Heavy.

gula, gulae — Throat, neck, [esophagus](#).

guttur, gutturis — Throat, neck, [esophagus](#); goiter.

hedra — Seat.

hedys — Sweet (see also: [glykys](#)).

hekaton — A hundred.

helios — Sun.

helix — Spiral.

helmis — Worm.

hemi- — Half-.

herpetos — Crawling, creeping.

hesperos — Western; of the evening.

hippo — Horse.

homos — Same.

habitare — To dwell, reside.

hereditas, hereditatis — Inheritance, heredity.

Hesperus, Hesperii — Evening-star (symbolically: the west).

hora, horae — Hour, time, season.

hortus, horti — Garden, park.

hostis, hostis — Enemy.

humanitas, humanitatis — Human nature, culture, kindness.

humerus, humeri — Upper arm, shoulder.

homo, hominis — Man, human being.

iasis — Infection.

iatros — Physician.

ichnos — Track, trace, footprint.

ichthys — Fish.

icteros — [Jaundice](#).

idios — Individual.

idros — Sweat.

ilos — Whole.

ignis, ignis — Fire.

imber, imbris — Rain.

immunis — Exempt, immune.

incola, incolae — Resident.

infra — Below, lower than, further along; to the south.

inter — Between, among, during.

intra, intro- — Within, inside, during, under.

iris, irid- — Iris.

ischein — To restrain.

ischion — Hip.

isos — Equal.

istos — Tissue.

Note: — The letter *K* in a Greek root is often replaced by the letter *C* in modern English words derived from that root.

kainos — New, fresh.

kakos — Bad, evil, pernicious.

kalos — Beautiful.

kampe — To bend.

karkinoma — Cancer.

karkinomata — Cancers.

karpos — Fruit, wrist.

karya — Nut, kernel.

kata — Down.

kele — [Tumor](#), [hernia](#).

kentesis — Puncture.

kephale — Head.

keras — Horn.

kerkos — Tail.

kinesis — Motion, movement.

kleis — Key.

kleistos — Closed.

jejunos, jejuna ejunum — Fasting, hungry.

juba, jubae — Mane, crest (of a helmet).

jugulus, juguli — Throat, neck; collarbone.

jugum, jugi — Yoke.

juvenis, juvenis — Youth; young man or woman.

juxta — Near, next to.

Note: — The letter *K* was very rarely used in Latin.

kline — Bed.

kneme — Shin.

knide — Nettle, sea nettle.

koilia — Belly.

koilos — Hollow.

kokkos — Berry.

koleos — Sheath.

kolon — [Colon](#).

kolpos — [Vagina](#).

kolyo — To hinder, prevent.

kome — Hair.

konios — Dusty.

konis — Dust.

kopros — [Excrement](#).

kore — Pupil.

kormos — Tree trunk.

krinein — To secrete.

kryos — Freezing cold.

kryptos — Hidden, secret.

kyanos — Dark blue, lapis lazuli.

kyesis — Conception, pregnancy.

kyklos — Circle.

kyon — Dog.

kyphos — Bent forwards, hunchbacked, stooping.

kystis — Bladder, sac.

kytos — Hollow vessel.

lagos — Hare.

lalia — Chatter.

lapara — Abdomen, flank.

larynx — Larynx.

lasios — Shaggy, wooly.

leios — Smooth.

lemma — Rind, husk.

lepis — Flake, scale.

lepsis — Seizure.

leptos — Fine, small, thin, weak, delicate.

leukos — Light, bright, clear, white.

liparos — Greasy, fatty, oily.

lithos — Stone.

locheyo — To bear, carry, bring forth.

logos — Explanation, law, theory, reasoning, speech.

loma — Fringe.

lonche — Lance, spearhead.

lophos — Crest.

lykos — Wolf.

lyo — To dissolve.

lysis — Loosing, breaking up, parting, releasing.

labium, labi(i) — Lip.

lacrima, lacrimae — Tear (teardrop).

lacte, lactis — Milk.

lacuna, lacunae — Hollow, pit, cavity, space.

laevus, laeva, laevum — Left, on the left hand.

lagena, lagenae — Flask, bottle.

lana, lanae — Wool, soft hair.

latus, lata, latum — Wide, broad; spacious.

latus, lateris — Side, flank.

laurus, lauri — Bay-tree, laurel.

lenticula, lenticulae — Lentil, lens-shaped vessel.

leo, leonis — Lion.

lepra, leprae — Leprosy.

lepus, leporis — Hare.

liber, -a, -um — Free, unrestrained, frank, independent.

liber, liberi — Child.

liber, libri — Book, volume.

lien, lienis — Spleen.

lignum, ligni — Wood, timber, firewood.

lingula, lingulae — Tongue.

longus, longa longum — Long, tall, far.

lucidus, lucida, lucidum — Shining, clear, bright.

lumbus, lumbi — Loins.

makros — Long, tall, high, large.

malaxis — Softening.

mastos — Breast, udder.

megas, megale, mega- — Big, great, full-grown, vast, high.

meion — Less.

melas — Dark, black, murky.

meninx — [Membrane](#).

meros (1) share, portion, part; (2) thigh, [femur](#).

mesos — Middle, in the middle.

meta — Among, between, after, later, along with.

metopon — Brow, forehead.

metra — [Uterus](#).

metron — Measure, rule.

mikros — Small.

misos — Hatred.

mitos — Thread.

mimeomai — To mimic, imitate, represent.

monos — Alone, solitary.

morphe — Form, shape, kind, sort.

luna, lunae — Moon.

lupus, lupi — Wolf.

luteus, lutea, luteum — Yellow.

lympha, lymphae — Water, water nymph.

lyra, lyrae — Lyre.

magnus, magna, magnum — Big, large, tall.

major, majora, majorus — Bigger, larger, taller.

mal — Bad, evil, wicked; ugly.

maximus, -a, -um — Biggest, largest, tallest.

medius — Middle, neutral.

medulla — Marrow, innermost part, kernel.

melior, melior, melius — Better.

metallum, metalli — Metal.

mille, milis — Thousand.

mons, montis — Mountain.

mucus, muci — [Mucus](#), snot.

multus — Many.

mus, muris — Mouse.

musca, muscae — Fly (insect).

musculus, musculi — (1) Small mouse; (2) muscle.

mustela, mustela — weasel.

nanus, nani — Dwarf.

nasus, nasi — Nose.

nervus, nervi — Muscle, nerve; cord, string.

myelos — [Marrow](#).

myia — Fly.

mykes — Mushroom, [fungus](#).

myon — Muscle.

myxa — [Mucus](#).

nannos — Dwarf.

nekros — Dead, dying person, corpse.

nema, nemata — Thread.

nephros — [Kidney](#).

neuron — Nerve, sinew, cord.

nipha — Snow.

nitron — [Natron](#).

noma — Distributing, ordering.

nosos — Disease.

nothos — Bastard, baseborn, spurious.

notos — Back.

nux, nyctos — Night.

odous, odont — Something pointed; tooth, spike.

odyne — Pain.

oidema — Swelling.

oikos — Habitation.

oion — Egg.

oisophagos — [Esophagus](#).

olecranon — Elbow.

nidus, nidi — Nest.

niger, nigra, nigrum — Black, dark.

nitrum, nitri — [Natron](#).

nix, nivis — Snow.

nocere — Harm, hurt, injure.

noctua, noctuae — Little owl.

nodus, nodi — Node, knot.

non- — Not.

nonus — Ninth.

normalis — Forming a right angle.

novem, nonus -a -um — Nine.

novus, nova, novum — New, fresh, young, unusual.

nox, noctis — Night.

nucleus, nuclei — Inside of a nut, nucleus.

nudus, nuda, nudum — Naked, bare, stripped.

nummus, nummi — Coin, cash, money.

nutus, nutus — Nod, command.

nux, nucis — Nut.

ob — Toward, against, in the way of.

occludere — Close, shut, close off.

octo, octavus, -a, -um — Eight.

oculus, oculi — Eye.

olea, oleae — Oil, olive, olive tree.

olfacere — To smell.

omnis — All, every.

oligos — Few, little, scanty, small.

omia — Shoulder.

omos — [Ulna](#).

ombros — Rain.

omphalos — Navel, [umbilical cord](#).

on — Being (pres. participle of **einein**).

onkinos — Hook.

onkos — Bulk, mass.

onoma — Name.

onyx — Talon, claw.

ophthalmos — Eye.

ops — Eye, face.

optikos — Of or for sight.

orchis — [Testicle](#).

oros — Mountain.

orthos — Straight, correct, true, just.

osche — [Scrotum](#).

osme — Smell, odor, sense of smell.

osmos — Thrusting.

osphresis — Smell.

osteon — Bone.

ostrakon — Shell.

oulon — The gums.

oura — Tail.

oureter — [Ureter](#).

optime — (adv.) Best, well.

optimus, optima, optimum — (adj.) Best.

opus, operis — (n.) Work, need.

orexis, orexis — Appetite.

origo, originis — Origin, source, birth, ancestry.

ornatus, ornata, ornatum — Decorated.

oryza, oryzae — Rice.

os, oris — (1) mouth; (2) face.

os, ossis — Bone.

ostium, osti(i) — Front door, entrance, mouth (of river).

ostrea, ostreae — Oyster.

ovis, ovis — Sheep.

ovarium, ovarii — [Ovary](#).

ovum, ovi — Egg

ouron — [Urine](#).

ous — Ear.

pachys — Thick, stout.

paidon — Young child.

palaios — Old, ancient.

para- — Beside, beyond, along, near, by.

parthena — Virgin.

pathe — Suffering, misfortune.

pelos — Clay, mud, mire.

penia — Lack, deficiency, poverty.

pepsis — Digestion.

peri — Round about, around, all around.

pexis — Putting together, connection.

phagein — To eat.

phakos — Lentil, lentil-shaped, as a lens.

phallos — Penis.

phaneros — Visible, manifest.

phanai — To speak, say.

pharmakon — Drug, medicine, potion, poison.

phasis — Utterance, statement, speech.

phileo — To love, regard with affection.

phleps — Blood vessel, whether vein or artery.

phobos — Fear.

phonema — Sound, utterance.

phoresis — Being borne.

palus, paludis — Swamp, marsh.

papilla, papillae — [Papule](#), pustule.

parare — Give birth to; beget, bring forth.

pecus, pecoris — Cattle, herd.

pelvis, pelvis — Shallow basin.

penis, penis — Penis.

per — Through, during, by.

pes, pedis — Foot.

petra, petrae — Rock, boulder, stone.

pilus, pili — Hair.

pinus, pinus — Pine, fir.

piscis, piscis — fish.

planus, plana, planum — Flat.

plumbum, plumbi — Lead (the element).

plus, pluris — More, too much.

pons, pontis — Bridge.

possum, posse, potui — Be able, can.

post — Behind, after, afterwards.

potens, potentis — Capable, mighty, powerful.

prae — Before, in front of, forward. Latin *proprius*

pro — On behalf of, for, before, beforehand, in front.

proprius, propria, proprium (adj.) — Own, individually characteristic.

phoros — Bearing.

photiso — Shine, give light.

phren — Mind.

phthio — To decay, wane, waste away.

phthora — Destruction, death.

phykos — Seaweed.

phylakeia — Guard, protection.

phylon — Tribe, race.

phyllon — Leaf.

physa — Bellows.

phyton — Plant.

pikros — Bitter.

pithekos — Ape, monkey.

plakes — Plates.

planos — Wandering.

plasm — Anything formed or molded.

platys — Flat, level.

plege — Stroke, blow.

pleura — Rib, side.

pneo — To breathe.

pneumon — Lung.

poiesis — Fabrication, creation, production.

poikilos — Spotted, varied, changeable.

polios — Gray.

poly- — Many, much, too much, excessive.

psittacus, psittaci — Parrot.

pubescere — To reach physical maturity, grow body hair.

pulex, pulicis — Flea.

pulmo, pulmonis — Lung.

pus, puris — Pus.

putorius, putorii — Skunk.

quadratus (also: **quadrum**) — Square.

qualitas, qualitatis — Quality, nature.

quasi — As if.

quattuor, quartus -a -um, quaterni -ae -a, — Four.

quercus, quercus — Oak.

quietus, -a -um, — Resting, sleeping.

quingenti — Five hundred.

quinque, quintus -a -um, quini -ae -a — Five.

quiris, quiritis (also: **curis**) — A spear

poros — Pore.

pous, podos, podi, poa — Foot.

proto- — First (in time).

pseudo- — False.

psyche — Life, spirit, soul, mind, consciousness.

pteris — Fern.

pteron — Feathers, wing, winged one.

ptosis — Fall, collapse.

ptyalon — Sputum, saliva.

pyelos — Tub, vat, trough.

pyge — Rump, buttocks.

pyknos — Close, compact, narrow, constricted.

pyle — Orifice.

pyloros — Gatekeeper.

pyon — Pus.

pyr — Fire.

rachis — Spine.

rein — Flow.

rhaphe — Stitching, sewing.

rhegma — A breakage or fracture.

rheguni — To break asunder, rend.

rheos — Current.

rhis — Nose, snout.

rhiza — Root.

rabidus, rabida, rabidum — Mad, raging, crazy.

radius, radi(i) — Ray.

re- — Again.

regina, reginae — Queen.

renunculus, renunculi — [Kidney](#).

respiratio, respirationis — Breathing.

rete, retis — Net, snare.

retro — Backwards, behind, on the back; formerly.

rex, regis — King.

sakcharon — Sugar.

salpinx — Tube.

sapros — Rotten.

sarx — Flesh.

saura — Lizard.

schizein — To split or cleave.

sepsis — [Putrefaction](#).

sialon — [Saliva](#).

sideros — Iron.

sitos — Grain.

skleros — Hard.

skolios — Crooked.

skolex — Worm, grub.

skopein — To examine.

soma — Body.

spasmos — Convulsion.

speira — Coil.

sperma — Seed, [semen](#), race, origin.

sphen — Wedge.

sphygmos — Pulse.

splangchnon — Internal organ.

sporos — Sowing, seed, offspring, [semen](#).

staphyle — Bunch of grapes.

stasis — Condition of standing.

statos — Standing.

rota, rotae — Wheel.

rufus, -a, -um — Red, ruddy.

ruga, rugae — Wrinkle, crease, fold.

rus, ruris — Country (rural area), countryside, farm.

rutilus, -a, -um — Red, orange.

rutundus, -a, -um — Round, circular, spherical, wheel-like.

sacrum — [Sacrum](#).

saeta, saetae — Hair, bristle.

scutum, scuti — Shield.

sanguis, sanguinis — Blood.

semen — Seed.

semi — Half.

separare — To separate.

septem, septimus -a -um, — Seven.

sesqui — One and a half times.

sex, sextus — Six.

simia, simiae — Ape, monkey.

sinister, sinistra — Left.

species, speciei — Appearance.

spirare — To breathe; blow; live.

squama — Scale.

stercus, stercoris — Filth, dung, manure.

stratum, strati — Bed, blanket.

strix, strigis — Screech owl; vampire.

stear — Fat, tallow.

stege — Roof.

stemon — Warp, thread.

stenos — Narrow.

stethos — Chest.

stoma, stomat- — Mouth.

streptos — To be bent or turned.

stylos — Pillar.

syn — Together.

syrinx — Pipe or tube.

tachos — Speed.

tainia — Band, headband.

taktikos — Pertaining to arrangement.

taphos — Funeral, tomb, grave.

tautos — The same, identical.

taxis — Arrangement, order.

teinein — To stretch.

tele — Distant.

telos — End.

tetra — Four.

thamnos — Bush, shrub.

theion — [Sulfur](#).

therme — Heat.

thrix — The hair of the head.

thrombos — Lump, clot of blood.

sub — Under, beneath, behind, during.

sulfur, sulfuris — Brimstone, sulfur; lightning.

super — Above, on top, upon, over, upwards

tactus, tactus — Touch, sense of touch.

talus, tali — Ankle, ankle bone; pastern.

tardus, tarda, tardum — Slow, late.

tegmen, tegminis — Covering, protection, clothing, armor, skin, shell, husk.

tela, telae — Web.

tempestat, tempestatis — Weather; storm; season.

tempus, temporis — Time; condition; season.

tepidus, -a-, -um — Warm, tepid.

tergum, tergi — Back, rear.

terminus, termini — Boundary, end.

terra, terrae — Earth; land; country.

terrere — Frighten, terrify.

testiculus, testiculi — [Testicle](#).

testudo, testudinis — Tortoise, turtle.

thylackos — Sac.

thymos — Mind, spirit.

thyreos — Oblong shield.

tokeus — Father, sire.

tomeus — One that cuts.

tomos — Cutting, sharp.

topos — Place.

toxon — Bow.

trachelos — Throat, neck.

tri — Thrice.

trophe — Nourishment, food.

tropos — Turn, direction, way.

trypanon — Auger.

tyros — Cheese.

tyrannos — King, unconstitutional ruler.

xanthos — Yellow.

xenos — Stranger, foreigner.

xeros — Dry.

xiphos — Sword.

xylon — Wood.

yalos — Glass.

ydor — Water.

yoeides — U-shaped.

thalassinus, -a-, -um — Sea-green.

thallus, thalli — Young green branch or shoot.

theca, thecae — Case, box, cover, envelope, container.

thorax, thoracis/os — Chest, upper body.

tibia, tibiae — Pipe, shinbone.

tigris, tigris — tiger.

toxicum, -a, -um — Poison.

trans — Across, beyond, on the other side.

tristis, tristis, triste — Sad.

triticum, tritici — Wheat.

tubus, tubi — Pipe, trumpet.

tumulus, tumuli — Hillock; mound; grave.

tussis, tussis — Cough.

tympanum, tympani — Small drum.

typus, typi — Figure, pattern, type, model.

ulna, ulnae — Forearm.

ultra — Beyond, further, more, on the other side.

ulula, ululae — Tawny owl.

uncus, unci — Hook.

uncus, unca, uncum — Hooked, curved; barbed.

undecim, undecimus -a -um — Eleven.

unus, una, unum — One.

unda, undae — Wave, surge.

unus, una, unum — One.

yper — Above.

ypo — Under.

ypsi — High.

ystera — [Uterus](#).

zoe — Life.

zoon — Animal.

zygon — Yoke, union.

zymosis — [Fermentation](#).

urbanus, -a, -um — Urban, pertaining to the city.

ursus, ursi — Bear (the animal).

uterus, uteri — Womb, [abdomen](#).

uxor, uxoris — Wife.

vacuus, vacua, vacuum — Empty.

vagina, vaginae — Sheath, scabbard.

valens, valentis — Potent, strong, robust.

vas, vasis — Vessel, dish, vase.

velociter — Fast, swiftly.

velum, veli — Covering, curtain; sail.

vena, venae — Blood vessel.

venatio, venationis — Hunting.

venenum, veneni — Poison.

venter, ventris — [Abdomen](#), belly.

ventus, venti — Wind.

venustus, -a, -um — Pretty, attractive.

verbum, verbi — Word.

vermis, vermis — Worm, maggot.

veritas, veritatis — Truth.

vesicula, vesiculae — Small bladder, blister.

vespa, vespae — Wasp.

vesper, vesperis — Evening, west.

vespertilio, vespertilionis — Bat.

vestis, vestis — Clothing, blanket.

vetus, veteris — Old, ancient.

via, viae — Way, road.

vibrare — To shake, vibrate.

vicinus, -a, -um — Neighboring.

virgo, virginis — Maiden, young woman, virgin.

vivus, viva, vivum — Alive, living.

vorare — To swallow, devour.

vulpes, vulpis — Fox.