

Scientific Root Words, Prefixes, And Suffixes

a-, an-	not, without, lacking, deficient	centi-	hundredth	-escent	becoming
ab-	away from, out from	centr-	center	eso-	inward, within, inner
-able	capable of	cephal-	head	eu-	well, good, true, normal
ac-	to, toward	cerat-	horn	eury-	widen
-aceous	of or pertaining to	cerebr-	brain	ex-	out of, away from
acou-, acous-	hear	cervic-	neck	extra-	beyond, outside
ad-	to, toward	chel-	claw	-fer-	bear, carry, produce
aden-	gland	chem-	dealing with chemicals	ferro-	iron
adip-	fat	chir-	hand	fibr-	fiber, thread
aero-	air	chlor-	green	-fid, fiss-	split, divided into
agri-	field, soil	chondr-	cartilage	-flect, -flex	bend
-al	having the character of	chrom-, -chrome	color	flor-	flower
alb-	white	chron-	time	flu-, fluct-, flux	flow
alg-, -algia	pain	-chym-	juice	foli-	leaf
alto-	high	-cid-, -cis-	cut, kill, fall	fract-	break
ambi-	both	circa-, circum-	around, about	-gam-	marriage
ameb-	change, alternation	cirru-	hairlike curls	gastr-	stomach
amni-	fetal membrane	co-	with, together	geo-	land, earth
amphi-, ampho-	both	cocc-	seed, berry	-gen, -gine	producer, former
amyl-	starch	coel-	hollow	-gene-	origin, birth
ana-	up, back, again	coll-	glue	-gest-	carry, produce, bear
andro-	man, masculine	coni-	cone	-glen-	eyeball
anemo-	wind	contra-	against	-glob-	ball, round
ang-	choke, feel pain	corp-	body	gloss-	tongue
angi-	blood, vessel, duct	cort-, cortic-	outer layer	gluc-, glyc-	sweet, sugar
ante-	before, ahead of time	cosmo-	world, order, form	glut-	buttock
anter-	front	cotyl-	cup	gnath-	jaw
antho-	flower	counter-	against	-gon-	angle, corner
anti-	against, opposite	crani-	skull	-grad-	step
anthropo-	man, human	cresc-, cret-	begin to grow	-gram, graph	record, writing
-ap-, -aph-	touch	crypt-	hidden, covered	grav-	heavy
apo-, ap-	away from	-cul-, -cule	small, diminutive	-gross-	thick
aqu-	water	cumul-	heaped	gymno-	naked, bare
archaeo-	primitive, ancient	cuti-	skin	gyn-	female
-ary, -arium	denotes a place for something	cyan-	blue	gyr-	ring, circle, spiral
arteri-	artery	-cycle, cycl-	ring, circle	-hal-, -hale	breathe, breath
arthr-	joint, articulation	-cyst-	sac, pouch, bladder	halo-	salt
-ase	forms names of enzymes	cyt-, -cyte	cell, hollow container	hapl-	simple
aster-, astr-	star	dactyl-	finger	hector-	hundred
-ate	verb form – the act of	de-	away from, down	-helminth-	worm
anther-	fatty deposit	deca-	ten	hem-	blood
-ation	noun form – the act of	deci-	tenth	hemi-	half
atmo-	vapor	deliquesc-	become fluid	hepar-, hepat-	liver
audi-	hear	demi-	half	herb-	grass, plants
aur-	ear	dendr-	tree	hetero-	different, other
auto-	self	dent-	tooth	hex-	six
bacter-, bactr-	bacterium, stick, club	derm-	skin	hibern-	winter
barb-	beard	di-, dipl- (Latin)	two, double	hidr-	sweat
baro-	weight	di-, dia- (Greek)	through, across, apart	hipp-	horse
bath-	depth, height	dia- (Latin)	day	hist-	tissue
bene-	well, good	digit-	finger, toe	holo-	entire, whole
bi- (Latin)	two twice	din-	terrible	homo- (Latin)	man, human
bi-, bio- (Greek)	life, living	dis-	apart, out	homo- (Greek)	same, alike
-blast-	sprout, germ, bud	dorm-	sleep	hort-	garden
brachi-	arm	dors-	back	hydr-	water
brachy-	short	du-, duo-	two	hygr-	moist, wet
brady-	slow	-duct	lead	hyper-	above, beyond over
branchi-	fin	dynam-	power	hyph-	weaving, web
brev-	short	dys-	bad, abnormal, difficult	hyphno-	sleep
bronch-	windpipe	ec-	out of, away from	hypo-	below, under, less
cac-	bad	echin-	spiny, prickly	hyster-	womb, uterus
calor-	heat	eco-	house	-iae	person afflicted with disease
capill-	hair	ecto-	outside of	-iasis	disease, abnormal condition
capit-	head	-elle	small	-ic	(adjective former)
carcin-	cancer	-emia	blood	-chthy-	fish
cardi-	heart	en-, endo-, ent-	in, into, within	ign-	fire
carn-	meat, flesh	-en	made of	in-, il-, im-, ir-	not
carp-	fruit	encephal-	brain	in-, il-, im-, ir-	to, toward, into
carpal-	wrist	enter-	intestine, gut	in-	very, thoroughly
cata-	breakdown, downward	entom-	insects	-ine	of or pertaining to
caud-	tail	-eous	nature of, like	infra-	below, beneath
-cell-	chamber, small room	epi-	upon, above, over	inter-	within, inside
cen-, cene-	now, recent	-err-	wander, go astray	intra-	between
cente-	pierce	erythro-	red	-ism	a state or condition

iso-	equal, same	oo-	egg	saur-	lizard
-ist	person who deals with	ophthalm-	eye	schis-, schiz-	split, divide
-it is	inflammation, disease	opt-	eye	sci-	know
-ium	refers to a part of the body	orb-	circle, round, ring	scler-	hard
-kary-	cell nucleus	-orium, -ory	place for something	-scop-	look, device for seeing
kel-	tumor, swelling	ornith-	bird	-scribe, -script	write
kerat-	horn	orth-	straight, correct, right	semi-	half, partly
kilo-	thousand	oscu-	mouth	sept-	partition, seven
kine-	move	-osis	abnormal condition	-septic	infection, putrefaction
lachry-	tear	oste-	bone	sess-	sit
lact-	milk	oto-	ear	sex-	six
lat-	side	-ous	full of	-sis	condition, state
leio-	smooth	ov-	egg	sol-	sun
-less	without	oxy-	sharp, acid, oxygen	solv-	loosen, free
leuc-, leuk-	white, bright, light	pachy-	thick	som-, somat-, -some	body
lign-	wood	paleo-	old, ancient	somn-	sleep
lin-	line	palm-	broad, flat	son-	sound
lingu-	tongue	pan-	all	spec-, spic-	look at
lip-	fat	par-, para-	beside, near, equal	-sperm-	seed
lith-, -lite	stone, petrifying	path-, -pathy	disease, suffering	-spher-	ball, round
loc-	place	-ped-	foot	spir-, -spire	breathe
-log-	word, speech	-ped-	child	-spor-	seed
-logist	one who studies	pent-	five	stat-, -stasis	standing, placed, staying
-logy	study of	per-	through	stell-	stars
lumin-	light	peri-	around	sten-	narrow
-lys, -lyt, -lyst	decompose, split, dissolve	permea-	pas, go	stern-	chest, breast
macr-	large	phag-	eat	stom-, -stome	mouth
malac-	soft	pheno-	show	strat-	strat
malle-	hammer	-phil-	loving, fond of	stereo-	solid, 3-dimensional
mamm-	breast	phon-, -phone	sound	strict-	drawn tight
marg-	border, edge	-phore,, pher-	bear, carry	styl-	pillar
mast-	breast	photo-	light	sub-	under, below
med-	middle	phren-	mind, diaphragm	super-, sur-	over, above, on top
meg-	million, great	phyc-	seaweed, algae	sym-, syn-	together
mela-, melan-	black, dark	phyl-	related group	tachy-	quick, swift
-mer	part	-phyll	leaf	tarso-	ankle
mes-	middle, half, intermediate	physic-	nature, natural qualities	tax-	arrange, put in order
met-, meta-	between, along, after	phyt-, phyte	plath	tele-	far off, distant
-meter, -metry	measurement	pino-	drink	telo-	end
micro-	small, millionth	pinni-	feather	terr-	earth, land
milli-	thousandth	plan-	roaming, wandering	tetr-	four
mis-	wrong, incorrect	plasm-, -plast-	form, formed into	thall-	young shoot
mito-	thread	platy-	flat	-the-, -thes-	put
mole-	mass	pleur-	lung, rib, side	-thel-	cover a surface
mono-	one, single	pneumo-	lungs, air	therm-	heat
mort-	death	-pod	foot	-tom-	cut, slice
mot-	move	ply-	many, several	toxico-	poison
morph-	shape, form	por-	opening	top-	place
multi-	many	port-	carry	trache-	windpipe
mut-	change	post-	after, behind	trans-	across
my-	muscle	pom-	fruit	tri-	three
myc-	fungus	pre-	before, ahead of time	trich-	hair
mycel-	threadlike	prim-	first	-trop-	turn, change
myriad-	many	pro-	forward, favoring, before	-troph-	nourishment, one who feels
moll-	soft	p[ro]to-	first, primary	turb-	whirl
nas-	nose	pseudo-	false, deceptive	-ul-, -ule	diminutive, small
necr-	corpse, dead	psych	mind	ultra-	beyond
nemat-	thread	pter-	having wings or fins	uni-	one
neo-	new, recent	pulmo-	lung	ur-	urine
nephro-	kidney	puls-	drive, push	-ura	tail
-ner-	moist, liquid	pyr-	heat, fire	vas-	vessel
neur-	nerve	quadr-	four	vect-	carry
noct-, nov-	night	quin-	five	ven-, vent-	come
-node	knot	radi-	ray	ventr-	belly, underside
-nom-, -nomy	ordered knowledge, law	re-	again, back	-verge	turn, slant
non-	not	rect-	right, correct	vig-	strong
not-	back	ren-	kidney	vit-, viv-	life
nuc-	center	ret-	net, made like a net	volv-	roll, wander
ob-	against	rhag-, -rrhage	burst forth	-vor-	devour, eat
ocul-	eye	rhe-, rrhea	flow	xanth-	yellow
oct-	eight	rhin-	nose	xero-	dry
odont-	tooth	rhiz-	root	xyl-	wood
-ond	form, appearance	rhodo-	rose	zo-, -zoa	animal
olf-	smell	roto-	wheel	zyg-	joined together
oligo-	few, little	rubr-	red	zym-	yeast
-oma	abnormal condition, tumor	sacchar-	sugar		
omni-	all	sapr-	rotten		
onc-	mass, tumor	sarc-	flesh		