

## SUFFIXES

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Suffixes are letters or groups of letters that are added to the ends of words which can either change its meaning or to change its part of speech. The main suffixes are listed below:-

- able** (these form adjectives from verbs) - capable, enjoyable
- age** (these form abstract nouns) - marriage, carriage
- ant** (these are to do with people doing or being things) - servant, ignorant
- ar** (these form common nouns) - scholar, pillar
- ation** (these form nouns from verbs) - confirmation, relegation
- crat** (these form nouns) - aristocrat, democrat
- cy** (these form abstract nouns) - emergency, mercy
- dom** (these form abstract nouns) - kingdom, freedom
- ee** (these are to do with types of people) - committee, referee,
- er** (these form nouns connected with people or things) - preacher, streamer
- ess** (these form female nouns) - waitress, lioness
- est** (these form superlatives of adjectives) - biggest, coolest
- ful** (these form adjectives from nouns) - fearful, hopeful
- fy** (these form verbs to do with changing things) - justify, purify
- gon** (these form nouns to do with shapes) - hexagon, polygon
- hood** (these form nouns connected with the family) - brotherhood, childhood
- ible** (these form adjectives) - incredible, sensible
- ion** (these form abstract nouns) - attention, discussion
- ise** (these form endings for verbs) - surprise, practise
- ism** (these form abstract nouns which show an idea) - socialism, criticism
- ive** (these form adjectives from verbs) - active, impressive
- less** (these form adjectives which mean 'without') - worthless, penniless
- ly** (these form adverbs from adjectives) - gladly, funnily
- ment** (these form abstract nouns) - government, enjoyment
- ness** (these form abstract nouns) - darkness, governess
- or** (these form nouns to do with occupations) - governor, instructor
- ship** (these form abstract nouns to do with situation) - membership, friendship
- sive** (these form adjectives from nouns) - aggressive, offensive
- wise** (these form adverbs) - clockwise, otherwise
- y** (these form adjectives from nouns) - lazy, crazy

All the above suffixes can be said to be **derivational** as they change the type of word it is, such as from a noun to an adverb. The suffixes below are said to be **inflectional** as they change the tense of the word, such as from present tense to past tense:-

- ed** - I tried / I had tried
- ing** - I was trying

or the quantity of something:-

- es** - bus - buses
- s** - car - cars

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Above extract from "The New Primary English Directory" ISBN 1901146 413

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