

Common Suffixes and Meanings

SUFFIX	MEANING
-able	like, related to (adorable)
-ancy	state or quality (expectancy)
-atic	related to (aquatic)
-ary	related to (dictionary)
-an	belonging to (American)
-cide	kill (pesticide)
-cracy	type of government (democracy)
-ence	state or quality (reverence)
-er	more than (taller)
-er	someone who does something (dancer)
-ess	female (actress)
-est	most (nicest)
-ic	related to (volcanic)
-ice	state or quality (justice)
-id	related to (pallid)

SUFFIX	MEANING
-ify	make or do (justify)
-ile	relating to, like (juvenile)
-ism	state or quality (racism)
-ist	one who (dentist)
-itis	inflammation (arthritis)
-ive	can make or do (detective)
-ize	turn into (crystalize)
-logy	study of (geology)
-ly	way in which something is done (rudely)
-ness	state or quality (sadness)
-nomy	system of knowledge, rules, laws (astronomy)
-ory	place of or for (directory)
-ous	full of (marvelous)
-tion	state or result of (action)
-ty	condition, quality (difficulty)