GREEK AND LATIN ROOTS OF ENGLISH WORDS

Refer to the table below for information about Greek and Latin word roots and their meanings and examples of English words that contain those roots.

| **Root** | **Origin** | **Meaning** | **English Examples** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **aqu-** | Latin | water | aqua, aquarium, aqueduct, aquifer |
| **ab-, abs-** | Latin | away from | abnormal, absent, abstract |
| **agri-** | Latin | field | agriculture |
| **av-** | Latin | desire | avid, avarice |
| **audi-** | Latin | to hear | audible, audio |
| **ben-** | Latin | good or well | benefit |
| **bi-** | Latin | two or twice | bicycle, bigamy |
| **biblio-** | Greek | book | bibliography, bibliophile |
| **bio-** | Greek | life | biology, biopsy, biography |
| **calc-** | Latin and Greek | stone | calcium, recalcitrant |
| **cani-** | Latin | dog | canine, canines (teeth) |
| **can-, cin-, cant-** | Latin | sing | cantor, cantata, recant |
| **chron-** | Greek | time | chronic, chronicle |
| **circ-** | Latin | to circle, ring | circle, circus, circumnavigate |
| **deb-** | Latin | owe | debt, debtor |
| **dec-** | Greek | ten | decimal, decade |
| **del-** | Latin | delete | delegate, delete |
| **din-** | Greek | terrible or fearful | dinosaur |
| **ex-** | Latin | from, out of | exist, experience, exit, exact |
| **err-** | Latin | stray | error, err |
| **eur-** | Greek | wide | Europe |
| **fel-** | Latin | cat | feline |
| **fer-** | Latin | To bear, carry | differ, offer, transfer |
| **fing-, fig-** | Latin | to form or shape | figurine, disfigure |
| **ge-, geo-** | Greek | earth | geography, geology |
| **glob-** | Latin | sphere | global, globe |
| **grav-** | Latin | heavy | gravity, grave |
| **hab-, habit-** | Latin | have | habitat |
| **hemi-** | Greek | half | hemisphere |
| **here-; hes-** | Latin | cling, stick | adhere, cohesive |
| **hyper-** | Greek | above, over | hyper, hyperlink |
| **igni-** | Latin | fire | ignite, ignition |
| **inter-** | Latin | among or between | intermission |
| **judici-** | Latin | judge | judge, judgment |
| **juven-** | Latin | young | juvenile |
| **jur-; just-** | Latin | law, justice | jury, just, justice, justify |
| **labor-** | Latin | work | collaborate, labor, laboratory |
| **larg-** | Latin | large | enlarge, large, largo |
| **later-** | Latin | side | lateral, collateral |
| **lav-** | Latin | wash | launder, lavatory |
| **lax-** | Latin | slack, not tense | laxative, relax |
| **leg-** | Latin | choose, read | legend, legible |
| **mal-** | Latin | bad, wretched | dismal, malicious |
| **manu-; mani-** | Latin | hand | manual, manufacture, manicure |
| **mater-, matr-** | Latin | mother | maternal, matrimony |
| **medi-** | Latin | middle | media, median, mediate |
| **myth-** | Greek | story | myth, mythology |
| **nas-** | Latin | nose | nasal |
| **non-** | Latin | not | none, non-fiction |
| **nox-** | Latin | harm | obnoxious |
| **nutri-** | Latin | nourish | nutrition, nurture |
| **ocul-** | Latin | eye | ocular |
| **oper-** | Latin | work | operate, opera |
| **opt-** | Latin | choose | adopt, option |
| **ov-** | Latin | egg | oval |
| **pac-** | Latin | peace | appease, pacify |
| **par-** | Latin | equal | compare, subpar |
| **phon-** | Greek | sound | telephone, phonics |
| **photo-** | Greek | light | photo, photograph, photogenic |
| **pict-** | Latin | paint | depiction, picture |
| **plen-** | Latin | full | plenty, replenish |
| **reg-** | Latin | king | regal, reign |
| **resid-** | Latin | left behind | reside, residue, resident |
| **rot-** | Latin | wheel | rotate, rotation |
| **rur-** | Latin | farm, countryside | rural, rustic |
| **salv-** | Latin | save | salvage, salvation, salve |
| **soci-** | Latin | group | social, society |
| **sci-** | Latin | know | science, conscience |
| **serv-** | Latin | save, protect | observe, deserve, service |
| **tapet-** | Latin | carpet | tapestry |
| **tex-** | Latin | weave | textile, text |
| **tri-** | Greek | three | triangle, triad |
| **un-** | Latin | one | unite, unify |
| **urb-** | Latin | city | urban, suburb |
| **ven-** | Latin | come | advent, invent, adventure |
| **xyl-** | Greek | wood | xylophone |
| **zo-** | Greek | animal | zoo, zoology |

## Sources:

*Wikipedia. (n.d.). List of Greek and Latin roots in English/A-G.* [*https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\_of\_Greek\_and\_Latin\_roots\_in\_English/A–G*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Greek_and_Latin_roots_in_English/A%E2%80%93G)

*Wikipedia. (n.d.). List of Greek and Latin roots in English/H-O.* [*https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\_of\_Greek\_and\_Latin\_roots\_in\_English/H–O*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Greek_and_Latin_roots_in_English/H%E2%80%93O)

*Wikipedia. (n.d.). List of Greek and Latin roots in English/P-Z.* [*https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\_of\_Greek\_and\_Latin\_roots\_in\_English/P–Z*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Greek_and_Latin_roots_in_English/P%E2%80%93Z)