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>

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