

WORD STUDY

BASE WORD + SUFFIX

Base words

- A **base word** is a word to which a prefix or suffix may be added to form a new word.
- A part of a word that cannot be broken down.
- A word that we start with.
- It gives the basic meaning of the word.

Suffix

- Letter or letters added at the end of the base word.

Rule 1: When a base word ends with a **single consonant** and the **vowel is short**, the **consonant is usually doubled** before adding a suffix beginning with a vowel.

Base Word	Suffix	New Word
spin	-ing	spinning
spot	-ing	spotting
tap	-ed	tapped
plan	-ed	planned
stop	-er	stopper
rub	-er	rubber

Rule 2: When a base word ends with a silent **e**, drop the **e** before adding a suffix beginning with a vowel.

Base Word	Suffix	New Word
Shave	-ed	shaved
squeeze	-ed	squeezed
paste	-ing	pasting
close	-ing	closing
game	-er	gamer
wave	-er	waver

Rule 3: When a base word ends with **y**, and the suffix begins with **e**, change the **y** to **i** before adding the suffix.

Base Word	Suffix that begins with e	New Word
healthy	-er	healthier
Dirty	-er	dirtyer
Happy	-est	happiest
Funny	-est	funniest

Rule 4: You can also add endings to words to make new words.

Base Word	Suffix	New Word
play	-ful	playful
help	-ful	helpful
quick	-ly	quickly
slow	-ly	slowly
danger	-ous	dangerous
humor	-ous	humorous

Continuation of Rule 4

Base Word	Suffix	New Word
great	-er	greater
preach	-er	preacher
wind	-y	windy
snow	-y	snowy