

OPEN LIST OF ITALIAN MORPHEMES

DERIVATIONAL MORPHEMES

Derivational morphemes, when combined with a root, change either the semantic meaning or part of speech of the affected word.

1: VERBALIZING: transform a noun or adjective in a verb

Morpheme	Type	Examples
aC- (the C is often assimilated to the first consonant of the word)	Prefix	Cavallo → <u>Acc</u> avallare Punta → <u>App</u> untire Rosso → <u>Ar</u> rossire
-eggi-	Suffix	Schiaffo → Schiaff <u>eggi</u> are Verde → Verde <u>ggi</u> are Primo → Prime <u>ggi</u> are
-ific-	Suffix	Persona → Person <u>ific</u> are Pietra → Pietr <u>ific</u> are Forte → Fort <u>ific</u> are
In- / inn- / im- / ir- / il-	Prefix	Camera → <u>In</u> camerare Amore → <u>Inn</u> amorare Brutto → <u>Im</u> bruttire
-izz-	Suffix	Vivace → Vivac <u>izz</u> are Stabile → Stabil <u>izz</u> are
S-	Prefix	Bandiera → <u>S</u> bandierare Gomito → <u>S</u> gomitare

2: NOMINALIZING: transform a verb, an adjective or a noun in a(nother) noun [They're all suffixes]

Morpheme	Meaning	Examples
-aggi-	Noun indicating an action	Riciclare → Ricicl <u>agg</u> io Assemblare → Assembl <u>agg</u> io
-aggin-	Behaviour (usually negative) derived from being (adj)	Insulso → Insuls <u>agg</u> ine Testardo → Testard <u>agg</u> ine
-ai-	Person who sells (noun) or has to do with it	Macello → Macell <u>ai</u> o Burattino → Burattin <u>ai</u> o
-aiol-	Person producing (noun)	Pizza → Pizz <u>aiol</u> o Barca → Barc <u>aiol</u> o
-anz- / -enz-	Noun indicating an action	Sperare → Sper <u>anz</u> a Credere → Cred <u>enz</u> a
	Noun indicating a quality	Ignorante → Ignor <u>anz</u> a Sapiente → Sapient <u>ez</u> a Paziente → Pazient <u>ez</u> a
-eri-	Place where you buy (noun) or where they do (verb)	Pizza → Pizz <u>er</u> ia Fondere → Fond <u>er</u> ia
-ezz-	Quality derived from being (adj)	Brutto → Brut <u>ezz</u> a Leggero → Legg <u>er</u> ezza Alto → Alt <u>ezz</u> a
-ì-	+ masculine morpheme = noun indicating a continuous action	Cigolare → Cigol <u>ì</u> o Ronzare → Ronz <u>ì</u> o Miagolare → Miagol <u>ì</u> o
	+ feminine morpheme = quality derived from being (adj)	Allegro → Alleg <u>ri</u> a Pazzo → Pazz <u>ia</u> Geloso → Gelos <u>ia</u>
-ier-	Person whose work instrument is (noun)	Carabina → Carabin <u>ier</u> e Barba → Barb <u>ier</u> e
	Object containing (noun)	Brace → Brac <u>ier</u> e Tè → Te <u>ier</u> a
-ifici-	Place where they produce (noun)	Cemento → Cement <u>ific</u> io Calzatura → Calzatur <u>ific</u> io Caseus (lat.) "formaggio" → Case <u>ific</u> io
-in-	Person who does (verb) or has a job regarding (noun)	Posta → Post <u>in</u> o Spazzare → Spazz <u>in</u> o

	Object used to do (verb)	Colare → Col <u>ino</u> Accendere → Accend <u>ino</u>
-ism- / -esim-	Noun indicating a movement/attitude/ideology derived from (noun)	Ateo → Ate <u>ismo</u> Cristiano → Cristian <u>esimo</u>
-ist-	Person whose work instrument is (noun)	Taxi → Tax <u>ista</u> Giornale → Giornal <u>ista</u>
	Expert/passionate/lover or (noun)	Surf → Surf <u>ista</u> Latino → Latin <u>ista</u>
	Fan of (noun)	Milan → Milan <u>ista</u> Roma → Roman <u>ista</u>
	Noun derived from an adjective	Attivo → Attiv <u>ista</u> Speciale → Special <u>ista</u>
-ità / -età / -tà	Quality derived from being (adj)	Serio → Ser <u>ietà</u> Nobile → Nobil <u>ità</u>
-itudin- / -etudin-	Noun indicating the status derived from being (adj)	Alto → Altitud <u>ine</u> Solo → Solitud <u>ine</u>
-izi / -uzi	Quality derived from being (adj)	Furbo → Furb <u>izia</u> Astuto → Astu <u>zia</u>
-ment-	Noun indicating an action	Pagare → Pagam <u>ento</u> Nutrire → Nutr <u>imento</u>
-toi-	Instrument used to do (verb)	Essiccare → Essiccato <u>io</u> Frangere → Frant <u>io</u>
-tor-/-sor (m) -tric- (f)	Noun indicating the actor of (verb) – it also indicates the gender (m/f)	Lavorare → Lavorat <u>ore</u> /Lavorat <u>rice</u> Invadere → Invas <u>ore</u>
-tori-	Place where they do (verb)	Consultare → Consult <u>orio</u> Dormire → Dormit <u>orio</u>
-ur-	Noun indicating an action – created from the past participle	Cuocere → Cotto → Cott <u>ura</u> Leggere → Letto → Lett <u>ura</u>
-zion / -sion	Noun indicating an action - -sion is added to the past participle	Operare → Operaz <u>ione</u> Dividere → Diviso → Divis <u>ione</u>
Ø (zero morpheme)	Noun indicating an action	Abbandonare → Abbandon <u>o</u> Affittare → Affitt <u>o</u> (= Affitt+Ø)

3: ADJECTIVISING: transform a noun or a verb into an adjective

Morpheme	Meaning	Examples
-ace-	Produced/derived from (noun)	Carta → Cart <u>aceo</u> Erba → Erb <u>aceo</u>
-al-	Relative to (noun)	Inizio → Iniz <u>iale</u> Globo → Glob <u>ale</u> Posta → Post <u>ale</u>
-ar-	Relative to (noun)	Muscolo → Muscol <u>are</u> Popolo → Popol <u>are</u> Spettacolo → Spettacol <u>are</u>
-ari-	Regarding (noun)	Comunità → Comunitari <u>o</u> Umanità → Umanitari <u>o</u>
	Characterized by (noun)	Abitudine → Abitudinari <u>o</u>
-atori-	Generating (noun)	Liberare → Liberatori <u>o</u> Infiammare → Infiammatori <u>o</u>
-bil-	That can be (verb)	Amare → Amab <u>ile</u> Mangiare → Mangiabil <u>ile</u>
-es- / -an- / -in- / -asc-	Coming from (noun) – usually, cities	Torino → Torin <u>ese</u> Venezia → Venezi <u>ano</u> Trieste → Triest <u>ino</u> Como → Comas <u>co</u>
-esc-	Relative to (noun)	Libro → Libresc <u>o</u> Polizia → Poliziesc <u>o</u> Studente → Studentesc <u>o</u>
-evol-	That can be (verb)	Piega → Pieghev <u>ole</u> Girare → Girev <u>ole</u>

	Worthy of (noun)	Lode → Lode <u>vole</u> Merito → Merite <u>vole</u>
-ic-	Relative to (noun)	Storia → Stor <u>ico</u> Tipo → Tip <u>ico</u>
-ier-	Relative to (noun)	Ospedale → Ospedal <u>iero</u> Albergo → Albergh <u>iero</u>
-ifer-	Bringer of (noun)	Peste → Pest <u>ifero</u> Sopore → Sopor <u>ifero</u>
-ific- / -efic-	Bringer of (noun)	Pace → Pacif <u>ico</u> Male → Malef <u>ico</u>
-il-	Relative to (noun)	Primavera → Primaver <u>ile</u> Giovane → Giovan <u>ile</u>
-iv-	Relative to (noun)	Televisione → Televisi <u>ivo</u> Sport → Sport <u>ivo</u>
-izi-	Bringer of / Relative to (noun)	Reddito → Reddit <u>izio</u> Natale → Natal <u>izio</u>
-os-	Generating (noun) / Characterized by (noun)	Odio → Odio <u>so</u> Fastidio → Fastid <u>ioso</u>
-str-	Relative to (noun)	Campo → Campe <u>stre</u> Equus (lat.) "cavallo" → Eque <u>stre</u>

4: MORPHEMES FORMING ADVERBS (from adjectives)

-mente / -emente / -amente

e.g. Gentile → Gentilmente
Audace → Audacemente
Saltuario → Saltuariamente

5: DERIVATIONAL PREFIXES: they derive a word from another, without changing the class of speech of the first word

Morpheme	Meaning	Examples
a- / an -	Negation	Normalità → <u>A</u> normalità Alcolico → <u>An</u> alcolico
Ante- / anti-	Antecedent to (in time and space)	Porre → <u>Ante</u> porre Fatto → <u>Ante</u> fatto Pasto → <u>Ant</u> ipasto
Anti-	Opposition	Furto → <u>Ant</u> ifurto Sismico → <u>Ant</u> isismico
Con- / com- / cor- / col- / co-	Together	Dividere → <u>Con</u> dividere Rispondere → <u>Cor</u> rispondere Esistenza → <u>Coe</u> sistenza
Contro- / ContraC- (C is assimilated to the first consonant of the word)	Opposition	Bilanciare → <u>Contro</u> bilanciare Segno → <u>Contra</u> segno
De-	Privation	Vitalizzare → <u>De</u> vitalizzare
Dis-	Negation	Togliere → <u>Dis</u> togliere Livello → <u>Dis</u> livello
In-	Inside	Incarcerare Inscrivere
In- / im- / il- / ir-	Negation	Moralità → <u>Im</u> moralità Legalità → <u>Il</u> legalità Regolare → <u>Ir</u> regolare
Inter-	In between	Correre → <u>Inter</u> correre Calare → <u>Inter</u> calare
Meta-	Talking about itself	Testuale → <u>Meta</u> testuale Linguistico → <u>Meta</u> linguistico
Post- / pos-	After	Porre → <u>Pos</u> porre Bellico → <u>Post</u> bellico
Pre-	Before	Gustare → <u>Preg</u> ustare Concetto → <u>Pre</u> concetto
Re- / ri-	Back	Dare → <u>Ri</u> dare

	Again	Scrivere → <u>R</u> iscrivere
	Reciprocity	Cambiare → <u>R</u> icambiare
s-	Privation	Valutare → <u>S</u> valutare Cortese → <u>S</u> cortese
	Intensity	Vendere → <u>S</u> vendere Parlare → <u>S</u> parlare
Stra-	Intensity/Excess	Vincere → <u>S</u> travincere
Tra- / tras- / trans-	Through	Dire → <u>T</u> radire Passo → <u>T</u> rapasso Atlantico → <u>T</u> ransatlantico