

Complex word stress

▼ Stress-carrying suffixes

(mostly of French origin)

1 -ade: lemonade	7 -ese: Portuguese / Sudanese
2 -ain: entertain	8 -esque: picturesque
3 -aire: millionaire	9 -ette: cigarette / statuette
4 -ee: refugee / employee	10 -eur: connoisseur
5 -eer: mountaineer / engineer	11 -ique: antique
6 -esce: convaleece	12 -teen: fourteen

Neutral suffixes

Inflectional suffixes [-s / -es / -er / -est / -ed / -ing ...] are stress-neutral. So are the following:

comfort + **-able**

anchor + **-age**

capital + **-ism**

refuse + **-al** (*refusal*)

terror + **-ist**

intimate + **-cy** (*intimacy*)

bird + **-like**

wise + **-dom** (*wisdom*)

power + **-less**

wide + **-en** (*widen*)

hurried + **-ly**

wonder + **-ful**

punish + **-ment**

glory + **-fy** (*glorify*)

nimble + **-ness**

neighbour + **-hood**

poison + **-ous**

amaze + **-ing** (*amazing*)

craftsman+ **-ship**

devil + **-ish**

other + **-wise**

patron + **-ise** / **-ize**

fun + **-y** (*funny*)

Stress-moving suffixes

◀ These suffixes shift the stress to the last syllable of the stem, ie: accent falls on syllable immediately preceding the one containing suffix.

advantage + **-eous** (*advantageous*)

congratulate + **-ion** (*congratulation*)

vary + **-ety** (*variety*)

injure + **-ious** (*injurious*)

photo + **-graphy**

tranquil + **-ity** (*tranquillity*)

proverb + **-ial**

reflex + **-ive**

music + **-ian** [ʃ]

embryo + **-logy**

climate + **-ic** (*climatic*); exceptions: Arabic, politics, lunatic

◀ ▲ Accent falls two syllables before syllable containing suffix:

-ate: articulate, associate, certificate, discriminate, inseminate, stimulate, subordinate...

-fy: amplify, liquefy, magnify, satisfy, stratify...