

ROOT WORDS

What are Root Words?

When the **ending**, or **inflection**, is taken away from a word, the word that remains is called the **root word** or **base word**.

Examples

Inflections are added to base words to:

- Change the root words from singular to plural
Root: bed **beds**
- Change the tense of a word from present tense to past tense
Root: play **played**



PREVIEW

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Try This

Choose the root word.

- The root word of actress is _____.
 - acting
 - art
 - act
 - actress
- The root word of cooks is _____.
 - cook
 - cookie
 - uncooked
 - cooking
- The root word of happiest is _____.
 - happiness
 - happy
 - hop
 - happier