

## Spelling list: Words beginning with the prefix un-

A prefix is a short group of letters that is added to the beginning of a word in order to change its meaning.

*Un-* is an Old English prefix that means *not* .

It is like a secret code that, when added to the start of a word, signifies the opposite or the reversal of a base word's meaning. For example, *undo* means to reverse an action, *unseen* means not seen, and *unlock* means to free something from a locked state.

Once you have identified the base word, you can usually work out what an *un-* word means even if you've never come across it before. You'll become an expert at *un-* words in no time with our spelling activities!

unwell	Peter had been feeling <b>unwell</b> all morning.
unable	The boy tried to push the door, but he was <b>unable</b> to open it.
unhappy	When she lost the race, Rosie was very <b>unhappy</b> .
untidy	His handwriting is just an <b>untidy</b> scrawl.
untrained	The dog kept barking at the door because he was <b>untrained</b> .
unlucky	We were <b>unlucky</b> to lose the game by one goal.
unpopular	The politician is immensely <b>unpopular</b> .
unpick	He wanted to <b>unpick</b> the stitches and start his sewing from scratch.
unseen	The exam includes <b>unseen</b> poems.
unusual	We have had an <b>unusual</b> amount of rain this month.
undo	The knot was too tight to <b>undo</b> .
untie	The girl could not <b>untie</b> her laces.