



## 2-Syllable Nouns and Verbs

2-syllable nouns require the stress to be on the first syllable of the word whilst 2-syllable verbs require the stress to be on the second syllable of the word. There are numerous words where the word formation is exactly the same for the noun and the verb (possibly the adjective too), therefore the only way to differentiate between them is by using the correct word stress. Some of these words are shown below. The words that are highlighted green represent a change in meaning depending on the formation of the word.

Word	<i>Stress the first syllable</i>		<i>Stress the second syllable</i>	
	Type	Example	Type	Example
<b>Abstract</b>	Noun	A summary of a piece of writing e.g. a paper or a book <i>This abstract is very interesting</i>	Verb	To find information from a piece of research <i>This theory was abstracted from his research</i>
	Adj	Unusual <i>She always thinks of such abstract ideas</i>		
<b>Accent</b>	Noun	The way somebody talks from a certain area <i>I love her British accent!</i>	Verb	To emphasise something <i>Can you accent this word more?</i>
<b>Addict</b>	Noun	A person who is obsessed with something <i>My mother is a drug addict</i>	Verb	The act of making somebody become obsessed with something <i>My daughter is addicted to technology</i>
<b>Address</b>	Noun	The location of somebody <i>What's your address?</i>	Verb	To speak or write directly to somebody <i>Who is that letter addressed to?</i>
<b>Attribute</b>	Noun	<b>A-tri-bute</b> A characteristic <i>A strong flavour is an attribute of blue cheese</i>	Verb	<b>a-TRI-bute</b> To recognise that something is the result of somebody's/something's actions <i>The theory of relativity is attributed to Einstein</i>

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Combat	Noun	A fight <i>Our country is currently in combat with another</i>	Verb	An attempt to stop something from happening or to solve a problem <i>We managed to combat the growth of this bacterium</i>
	Adj	Used to describe something that is associated to a fight <i>She is wearing her combat trousers</i>		
Compound	Noun	Something that is combined by pushing two things together <i>This medication is a compound of two herbs</i>	Verb	The act of mixing things together <i>She compounded these two colours together to get a completely new one</i>
			Verb	To make something worse <i>Shouting in an argument only compounds the situation</i>
Compress	Noun	A piece of material placed on the human body (either hot or cold) to relieve pain <i>Put this heat compress on the back of your neck</i>	Verb	To push something into a small space <i>We can compress this flower and leave it to dry</i>
Conduct	Noun	Behaviour <i>Your conduct at the museum was appalling!</i>	Verb	To behave <i>Luckily, she conducted herself well today</i>
			Verb	To organise something and make it happen <i>We conducted a survey on learning languages</i>
			Verb	The action of electricity flowing <i>This metal conducts electricity</i>
Conflict	Noun	A disagreement <i>I'm in conflict with my boss at the moment</i>	Verb	To disagree actively <i>I often conflict with my husband on important things, such as money and savings</i>
Console	Noun	A piece of technology used for the television or gaming <i>I've lost my PlayStation console</i>	Verb	To comfort somebody in a time of distress <i>I consoled my sister when she broke up with her boyfriend</i>
Content	Noun	The main part of something e.g. a book, an essay, a drink <i>What are the contents of this drink?</i> <i>I'm lactose intolerant</i>	Adj	To be happy <i>I was content with my choice in the end</i>
Contest	Noun	A competition <i>There is a company sports contest this afternoon</i>	Verb	To fight for something competitively <i>I will contest my parliamentary seat</i>

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<b>Contract</b>	Noun	A legally binding agreement <i>Have you signed your new employment contract yet?</i>	Verb	To tighten something or become smaller <i>When I exercise, my muscles contract</i>
			Verb	To get (without wanting) <i>I contracted the flu</i>
			Verb	To hire for a specific task <i>We've contracted a specialist for the project</i>
<b>Contrast</b>	Noun	A difference <i>There is such a colour contrast in this painting!</i>	Verb	To purposely find a difference between two things <i>I want you to contrast these two essays</i>
<b>Converse</b>	Noun	The opposite <i>She always believes in the converse to me</i>	Verb	To talk and have conversation <i>I love conversing with my best friend</i>
<b>Convert</b>	Noun	A person who has changed faith <i>She's a Catholic convert</i>	Verb	Changing from one thing to another <i>We've converted the garage into a bedroom</i>
<b>Convict</b>	Noun	A criminal who has been found guilty of committing a crime <i>The convict escaped from prison</i>	Verb	The act of finding somebody guilty of committing a crime <i>He was convicted of robbery today</i>
<b>Decrease</b>	Noun	A smaller quantity than before <i>Why has there been a decrease in this currency?</i>	Verb	The act of becoming a smaller quantity <i>My workload is not decreasing!</i>
<b>Default</b>	Noun	Failure <i>There has been a big default in our production process</i>	Verb	To fail to do something <i>You cannot default if you're called to court</i>
<b>Desert</b>	Noun	A large sandy, hot area <i>Last year, I visited the Sahara Desert</i>	Verb	To leave <i>He deserted the army</i>
<b>Detail</b>	Noun	Specific information <i>I need more detail in this report</i>	Verb	To give more specific information about something <i>Can you detail what happened, please?</i>
<b>Discount</b>	Noun	A reduced price <i>Have you seen the discounts at the shops?</i>	Verb	The act of reducing a price <i>We will discount it from the bill</i>
<b>Entrance</b>	Noun	A place where somebody can move through <i>This is the main entrance for the event</i>	Verb	To hypnotise somebody <i>I was entranced by his skills</i>
<b>Escort</b>	Noun	Somebody who protects you, such as a bodyguard <i>The president has many escorts</i>	Verb	To join <i>Would you escort me to the bar?</i>

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<b>Exploit</b>	Noun	An action that is brave and daring <i>The exploits of the adventurers in the wilderness still amaze me</i>	Verb	To take advantage of something <i>Natural resources are being exploited</i>
<b>Export</b>	Noun	Something that is sent from your country to another <i>Our country's exports are in excess</i>	Verb	The act of sending something away from your country <i>We export fruits and vegetables</i>
<b>Extract</b>	Noun	A short piece of a longer piece of writing <i>Have you read this extract?</i>	Verb	To take something away <i>I'm going to extract your bad tooth</i>
<b>Finance</b>	Noun	The control of money <i>The finances of our company are good</i>	Verb	To provide money to somebody <i>We're not going to finance your project</i>
<b>Fragment</b>	Noun	A small piece of something broken <i>There are broken glass fragments everywhere!</i>	Verb	The act of making something smaller <i>The tribes soon fragmented due to the influence from modern-day society</i>
<b>Impact</b>	Noun	A crash <i>There was so much impact in the accident</i>	Verb	To have a big effect on <i>Her speech really impacted me</i>
<b>Import</b>	Noun	Something that is brought to your country from another <i>What are your country's biggest imports?</i>	Verb	The act of bringing something from another country to yours <i>We import lots of car pieces</i>
<b>Increase</b>	Noun	A larger quantity than before <i>Have you noticed this increase in GDP?</i>	Verb	The act of becoming a larger quantity <i>I would like to increase my salary</i>
<b>Insert</b>	Noun	Something that is attached to/inside something else <i>In the English exam, there is an insert with the poems</i>	Verb	The act of putting something inside <i>Insert the DVD into the machine</i>
<b>Insult</b>	Noun	Something offensive that somebody has said to you <i>What an awful insult!</i>	Verb	The act of saying something offensive to somebody <i>She just kept insulting me!</i>
<b>Invalid</b>	Noun	IN-va-lid A person who is very sick (not politically correct to use nowadays) <i>There are so many invalids in the hospital</i>	Adj	In-VA-lid Expired <i>I'm sorry, your card is invalid</i>
<b>Invite</b>	Noun	Short for invitation. An official request to an event <i>Do you like our wedding invites?</i>	Verb	The act of asking somebody to attend an event <i>I'm inviting you to my birthday party</i>
<b>Minute</b>	Noun	An expression of time meaning 60 seconds <i>Do you have a minute?</i>	Adj	Extremely small <i>These microorganisms are minute</i>

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<b>Object</b>	Noun	A physical thing <i>What object am I holding?</i>	Verb	To disagree with somebody <i>I object to the way you're talking to me</i>
<b>Perfect</b>	Adj	Free from mistakes <i>My hair is just perfect</i>	Verb	The act of making something have no mistakes <i>I still need to perfect my English speaking</i>
<b>Perfume</b>	Noun	A liquid with a nice scent <i>I just bought some new perfume</i>	Verb	The act of giving a nice smell to something <i>The flowers perfumed the room</i>
<b>Permit</b>	Noun	A document giving permission for something <i>Finally, we received the parking permit</i>	Verb	To allow <i>I'm sorry, we cannot permit you to smoke in here</i>
<b>Present</b>	Noun	A gift <i>I received a lovely birthday present from my mother</i>	Verb	To give a presentation <i>I'm presenting my ideas later today</i>
<b>Process</b>	Noun	A series of actions that create a system <i>Can you tell me about your production process?</i>		
	Verb	The act of taking in and understanding something <i>I'm going to need some time to process this</i>		
<b>Produce</b>	Noun	Things grown to be sold, such as corn, fruits and vegetables <i>When will the fresh produce arrive?</i>	Verb	The act of creating or making something <i>Our factory produces too much carbon dioxide</i>
<b>Progress</b>	Noun	The advancement of something <i>You've made so much progress in your level of English</i>	Verb	The act of advancing in something <i>Now, I can progress onto the next stage</i>
<b>Project</b>	Noun	An assignment that requires planning and completing stages of activities <i>I'm working on a new project for building 100 homes</i>	Verb	To make something louder or more visible <i>Could you project your voice more, I can't hear you at the back!</i>
<b>Protest</b>	Noun	A demonstration of an opinion <i>There is a protest outside our offices</i>	Verb	The act of demonstrating an opinion <i>We're protesting about the tax increases</i>
<b>Rebel</b>	Noun	A person who is opposed to something <i>I was such a rebel at school</i>	Verb	The act of opposing something <i>We rebel at the lack of action taken</i>



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<b>Recall</b>	Noun	When a company needs to ask customers to return products as they are dangerous <i>We put out a recall for all the pink chairs</i>	Verb	The act of remembering something <i>I recall our meeting last Tuesday</i>
<b>Record</b>	Noun	A document with information stated in the past <i>Your medical records show you had appendicitis when you were 10 years old</i>	Verb	The act of storing information stated <i>Can I record your statement using this microphone?</i>
<b>Refill</b>	Noun	Increasing the quantity of something once it has been used <i>Could I get a refill of my Coca Cola, please</i>	Verb	The act of increasing the quantity of something once it has been used <i>You can refill your glasses using the machine over there</i>
<b>Refund</b>	Noun	Money returned to you <i>The refund is worth \$5</i>	Verb	The act of returning money to somebody <i>We cannot refund you because you bought this product 10 years ago!</i>
<b>Refuse</b>	Noun	Waste material <i>The council collects our refuse on a weekly basis</i>	Verb	To say no <i>I refuse to visit you in hospital!</i>
<b>Reject</b>	Noun	Something or somebody that has not been accepted (not politically correct to use nowadays) <i>This product is a reject in the market</i>	Verb	The act of not accepting something <i>We have rejected your proposal, I'm sorry</i>
<b>Subject</b>	Noun	An area of discussion or study <i>My favourite subject at school was maths</i>	Verb	To undergo something, normally bad <i>He was subjected to years of torture</i>
<b>Survey</b>	Noun	A questionnaire <i>Can you fill out my survey about learning languages?</i>	Verb	To observe and ask questions about something <i>We will survey the situation before making any decisions</i>
<b>Suspect</b>	Noun	A person who is believed to have committed a crime <i>We have the suspect in custody</i>	Verb	To believe that somebody has committed a crime <i>I suspect it was the cook!</i>
<b>Transfer</b>	Noun	A move <i>The transfer arrived in my bank account this morning</i>	Verb	The act of moving <i>We need to transfer the power of attorney to her daughter</i>
<b>Update</b>	Noun	Recent information about something <i>Can you get me an update on my son?</i>	Verb	The act of getting recent information <i>Have you updated your CV yet?</i>
<b>Upgrade</b>	Noun	A positive improvement <i>I get a phone upgrade at the end of the year</i>	Verb	The act of improving something <i>I really need to upgrade my laptop</i>

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<b>Upset</b>	Noun	A confusion or problem <i>She has a stomach upset with everything that's happening at the moment at work</i>	Adj	To be sad <i>I'm upset that you would say that to me</i>