

## Suffixes -cial and -tial

*The -cial suffix usually follows a vowel. When examining the root word you can see that the **e** is dropped before adding **ial**.*

*The **ial** suffix means 'relates to'.*

*Here are some examples:*

- Official (office)
- Facial (face)
- Racial (race)
- Artificial (artifice)
- crucial

*The -tial suffix usually follows a consonant. When examining the root word you can see that the **ce** is dropped.*

*Here are some examples:*

- essential (essence)
- residential (residence)
- confidential (confidence)
- partial
- nuptial

*As with all spelling rules there are always exceptions. For example:*

- initial (the -tial suffix is used after a vowel)
- commercial, financial, provincial (the -cial suffix is used after a consonant)