

The Prefix EX-

Prefix ex- Meaning

ex- prefix (in nouns) = former

Ex-wife - A former wife

Ex-president - The former president

Ex = X

What does the letter X mean on a TV game show or a talent contest?

American's Got Talent uses an X when someone is eliminated from the show. The prefix ex- means *former*. This also has the feeling of **no more, not any longer**.

You were a part of the contest in the past, but now you are not. X = not anymore.



Here is another example.

If you get three Xs on a TV game show you are out. You are not a contestant anymore. You are an ex-contestant.



In this show, your team was out of the competition after 3 strikes (Xs)

The prefix **ex-** works the same way. If a person is no longer your romantic partner they are an ex-boyfriend or ex-girlfriend. Ex- = not anymore.

The prefix **ex-** and the letter **X** make the same sound

Your turn

Write your own example sentence using a real story from your own life.

For example :

“My **ex-roommate** was from Brazil. He loved Brazilian music.”

Ex- examples

ex-roommate, ex-boss, ex-coworker, ex-teammate (You can use an ex-boyfriend or girlfriend if it's okay for you, but you don't have to!)

You can probably guess the meaning of these words.

Ex-policeman

Ex-teacher

Ex-bank president

Ex-basketball coach

Ex-footballer

Do you know what end **Ex-con** is?

What is “con” short for?

Did you know?

We often use **EX** by itself as a noun to mean our past wife, husband, or romantic partner.

“I saw my **ex** at the mall yesterday. He has a beard now, it makes him look older.”

Question?

The city of Tampa Bay in the state of Florida has a major league baseball team called the Tampa Bay Rays. (Ray comes from a kind of ocean fish called a stingray.)

[Ex-Ray Tommy Pham: 'I'm a little sad to go.' - Tampa Bay Times](#)

Tommy Pham is a former member of the Tampa Bay baseball club. The newspaper headline calls him an ex-Ray. I have one question:

[Can an ex-Ray go to the hospital and get an x-ray?](#)

(Of course he can!)