



The Prefix Semi-

Word List

Semi-annual: occurring twice a year, every six months. (I found examples of semiannual written with and without a hyphen)

- The company's board meetings are held on a **semi-annual** basis.
- The company's budget is reviewed on a **semiannual** basis.

Semi-arid: a climate or region that receives very little rainfall, but not as little as a desert.

- The **semi-arid** region is prone to droughts and water scarcity.



Semi-automatic: a firearm that requires a trigger pull for each round fired, but uses some of the energy from firing to automate reloading.

- The soldier keeps his **semi-automatic** rifle clean and ready for action.

Semi-detached: a type of housing where two separate dwellings share a common wall.

- The new family moved into the **semi-detached** house next door.

Semi-final: a competition in which the winners will advance to the final round.

- The team won their **semi-final** match and advanced to the championship game.

Semi-precious: referring to gems or stones that are not as rare or valuable as precious stones like diamonds.

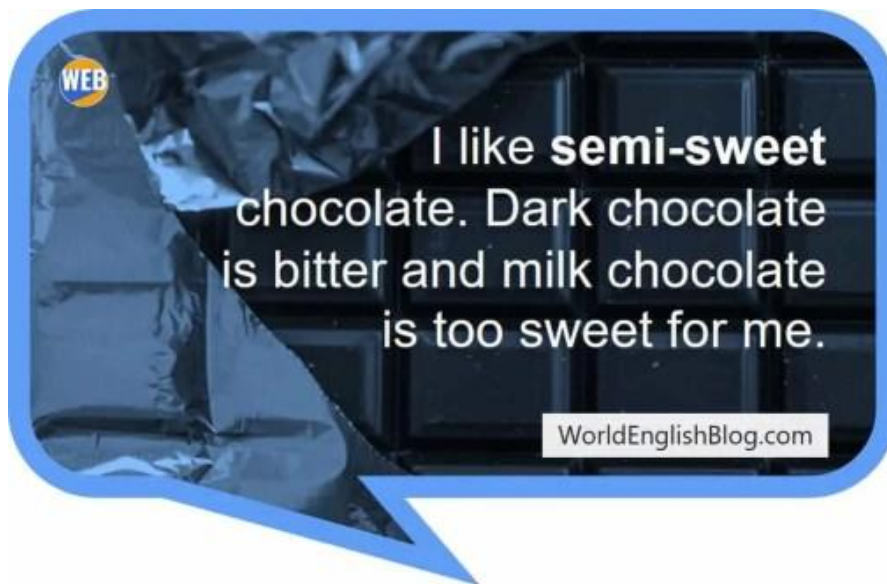
- She loves to wear jewelry made of **semi-precious** stones like amethyst and turquoise.

Semi-skilled: having some training or ability in a particular job or trade, but not fully qualified or experienced. (I found examples of semiskilled written with and without a hyphen)

- The company hired **semi-skilled** workers to perform basic assembly line tasks.
- The construction worker was **semiskilled**, able to perform basic tasks like framing and roofing but not qualified to do electrical or plumbing work.

Semi-sweet: referring to a taste that is only slightly sweet.

- The dessert had a perfect balance of **semi-sweet** chocolate and tart cherries.



I like **semi-sweet** chocolate. Dark chocolate is bitter and milk chocolate is too sweet for me.

Semi-trailer: a type of trailer that is attached to a truck tractor and is designed to carry freight without a front axle.

- The truck driver hitched the **semi-trailer** to the tractor and set off on the highway.

Semi-tropical: referring to a climate or region that is moderately warm and humid, but not as hot as a tropical climate. (I found examples of semitropical written with and without a hyphen)

- The resort is located in a **semi-tropical** climate that offers warm weather and cool breezes.

- The region had a **semitropical** climate, with warm temperatures and occasional tropical storms.

Semi-weekly: occurring twice a week, every other day or twice in a week.

- The newspaper publishes **semi-weekly** editions on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Semiautonomous: partially self-governing, having some degree of autonomy but still under the control of a larger entity.

- The city has **semiautonomous** districts that have some control over their own local affairs.

Semi-basement: a partially below-ground level of a building, with windows above the ground level.

- The storage area in the **semi-basement** kept the tools and equipment cool and dry.

Semibluff: a poker play in which a player with a weak hand bets as if they have a strong hand, in order to bluff their opponents.

- He made a **semibluff** with his low pair, hoping to scare his opponent into folding.



If I make a big bet and turn this into the **semibluff** I might take the pot down now.

Semicircle: a thing, or a group of people or things, like a semicircle in shape

- The teacher had everyone sit in a **semicircle** while we listened to the story.

Semiconscious: a state of being partially awake or aware.

- The patient was **semiconscious** after the surgery, but still unable to speak.

Semidependent: partially dependent on someone or something else for support or care.

- The elderly woman was **semidependent** on her caregiver for help with daily tasks.

Semidesert: a region that is partially desert, with less extreme conditions than a full desert.

- The **semidesert** landscape was dotted with cacti and scrub vegetation.

Cacti is an irregular plural form of the noun cactus. Learn more about **singular and plural nouns** at my blog post: [Singular and Plural nouns – 50 examples \(worksheet PDF\)](#)

Semidiameter: half the diameter of a circle or sphere.

- The **semidiameter** of the Earth is approximately 3,959 miles. (6,378.1370 km) [SOURCE](#)



Semidomesticated: partially tamed or domesticated, but not fully adapted to living with humans.

- The stray cat was **semidomesticated**, showing signs of having once lived with humans but still wary of being approached.

Semifictional: partially based on real events or people, but with fictional elements added.

- The movie was **semifictional**, telling the story of a real-life celebrity but embellishing some of the details for dramatic effect.

Semiflexible: partially flexible, able to bend or adapt to some degree but not completely pliable.

- The **semiflexible** plastic tubing was perfect for use in plumbing, as it could bend around obstacles but still maintain its strength.

Semifluid: partially fluid, having some fluidity but not completely liquid.

- Some of the lower levels of the Earth are made of **semifluid** liquid rock.

Semiformal: partially formal, having some elements of formality but not completely formal.

- The dress code for the event was **semiformal**, allowing for some flexibility in attire but still requiring a certain level of dressiness.



We dress **semi-formal** at the office. A collared shirt without a tie is fine.

Semigloss: partially glossy, having some shine but not completely glossy.

- The walls were painted with a **semigloss** finish, giving them a slight shine without being too reflective.

Semiofficial: partially official, having some level of authority or recognition but not completely recognized or sanctioned.

- The group had a **semiofficial** status, with some recognition from the government but was not considered an official organization.

Semipermanent: partially permanent, lasting for an extended period but not intended to be permanent.

- I work at the school on a **semipermanent** basis.

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Semiprivate: partially private, offering some degree of privacy but not completely private.

- The hospital room was **semiprivate**, shared with one other patient but offering a degree of privacy with a dividing curtain.



I had good travel insurance so I could upgrade from a **semiprivate** room to a private room.

Semipro / Semiprofessional: a person who is not a full-time professional, but earns money in a particular field on a part-time or occasional basis.

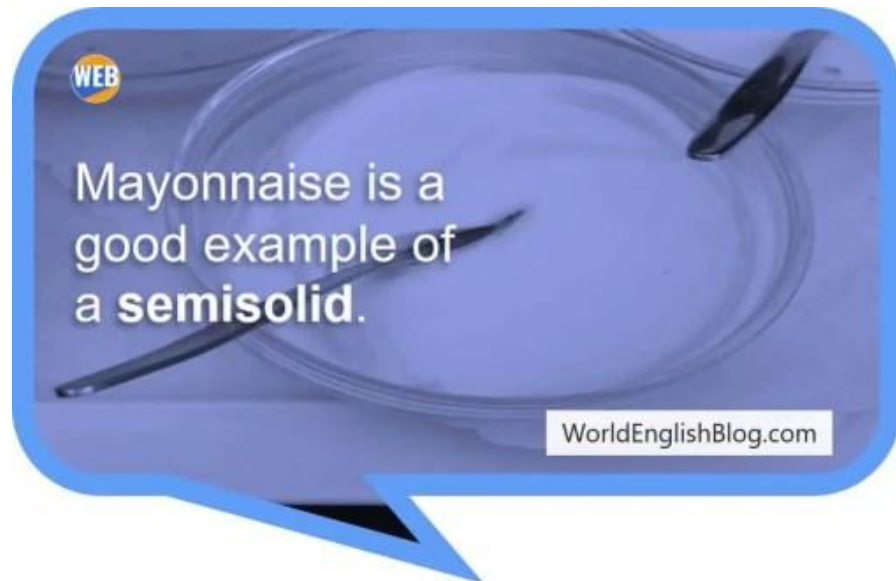
- The soccer team had several **semipro** players who worked day jobs but played on the weekends.

Semiretired: partially retired, working part-time or on a reduced schedule but not fully retired.

- The consultant was **semiretired**, working only a few days a week but still advising clients on projects.

Semisolid: partially solid, having some solidity but not completely solid.

- Mayonnaise is a good example of a **semisolid**. It's not completely solid but it also doesn't flow like a liquid.



Semitransparent: partially transparent, allowing some light to pass through but not completely transparent.

- The window film was **semitransparent**, offering some privacy.

Semivowel: a speech sound that sounds like a vowel but functions as a consonant, for example, /w/ and /j/ in the English words wet and yet

"The words "yes" and "well" start with semivowels."

[QUOTE](#)

Some of the words on this list can be referred to simply as "**semi**" in conversation. The full word is understood by the context of the story.

- “I used to live in a **semi** in a suburb of Toronto.”
This means a semi-detached house.
- “There was a big accident on the highway, a **semi** rolled over and caused a huge traffic jam.”
This means a semi-trailer rolled over.

The plural form **semis** is often used to refer to the semi-final games of a sports tournament.

- If we win tonight we make it to the **semis**.



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