

-dis

1. The opposite action

dis- combines with verbs to form new verbs. verbs formed in this way describe an action that has the opposite effect of, or reverses, the process described by the original verb. For example, if you “disobey” someone, you do not do what they tell you to; if you ‘disapprove’ of something, you do not like or approve of it.

In all these years I've never known you to disobey an order.
The boy disappeared from the hotel during the night.
The Binford disapproves of kids using beach houses for holidays.
The farmer was riding a mule and was about to dismount.

- Here are some examples of words with this meaning:

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| <i>disagree</i> | <i>discontinue</i> | <i>disinherit</i> | <i>displace</i> |
| <i>disallow</i> | <i>discredit</i> | <i>disintegrate</i> | <i>displease</i> |
| <i>disappear</i> | <i>disembark</i> | <i>disinvest</i> | <i>dispossess</i> |
| <i>disapprove</i> | <i>disenfranchise</i> | <i>dislike</i> | <i>disprove</i> |
| <i>disarm</i> | <i>disengage</i> | <i>dislodge</i> | <i>disqualify</i> |
| <i>disassociate</i> | <i>disentangle</i> | <i>dismount</i> | <i>dissatisfy</i> |
| <i>disband</i> | <i>dishearten</i> | <i>disobey</i> | <i>distrust</i> |
| <i>disbelieve</i> | <i>disincline</i> | <i>disorganize</i> | <i>disunite</i> |
| <i>disconnect</i> | <i>disinfect</i> | <i>disown</i> | <i>disuse</i> |

Note that dis- also combines with this meaning with nouns formed from the verbs listed above.

There was little disagreement over what needed to be done.
Thomas had been feeling a little dissatisfaction with his daughters.

Note that a number of verbs combine with de- rather than dis- to describe an action which reverses a process.