

Common Verbs and Their Variants

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This is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all the verb forms possible with each verb. Rather it is a listing of, I hope, enough of the common variations to show the way variants relate to the basic verb. I am sure that much has been left out. You will notice definite patterns as you watch the verb change from active to passive, intransitive to transitive, concrete to possible, verb to noun, verb to ideophone, etc. I'm sure you will also notice that there is quite a bit of irregularity in how the variation actually affects the meaning of the word; each word really must be learned on its own.

Note that some of the root verbs themselves are no longer in use or are very rare. An asterisk (*) after a word shows that that form is not very common.

Before every verb stem, I put the prefix “ku –” which makes it infinitive or gerund (to walk or walking) so that you would get used to seeing each verb in a realistic form .

Root	English Meaning	Common Modifications
kuba	to steal	kubera – to steal from kubedwa – to be stolen kuberedwa – to be stolen from mbabva – thief, robber mbala – thief, robber umbabva – theft
kubala	to give birth to, bear	kubalitsa – to propagate kubadwa – to be born kubadwira – to be born at chibaliro\`zi – womb chibalo\`zi – result chibadwa\`zi – nature chibadwidwe\`zi – nature mbadwa – citizen, native mbadwo\`mibadwo – generation mbale\`abale – relative, sibling of same gender chibale\`zi – state of being a relative ubale\`maubale – relationship
kubatiza (from English)	to baptize	kubatizidwa – to be baptized ubatizo – baptism mbatizi\`abatizi – baptist
kubaya	to pierce, stab	kubayidwa – to be pierced kubayira – to make holes for a purpose, ie. to plant or fertilize chibayo – pneumonia chibayiro\`zi – stake, stabber
kubereka	to give birth, carry on back	kubereketsa – to cause to bear kuberekana – to reproduce much kuberekera – to bear for kuberekedwa – to be born, carried chiberekero\`zi – womb
kubiriwira	to be green	biriwiri – green (ideophone)
kubisa	to hide something	kubisira – to hide something from someone kubisika – to be hidden chibisibisi\`zi – secrecy
kubisala	to hide oneself	kubisalika – to be hidden kubisalira – to hide from
kuboola	to pierce, push through	kubooka – to have a hole, be pierced ('it just happened') kubooledwa – to be pierced, etc. (someone did it) kubooleza – to drill, pierce into? bowo\`mabowo – hole mbowo\`mibowo – hole chiboolera\`zi – drill, thing that makes holes
kuvala	to put on clothes	kuveka – to clothe someone else, to adorn, decorate someone kuvekedwa – to be clothed by another, to be adorned kuvula – to take clothes off kavalidwe\`mavalidwe – fashion, way of wearing
kuvina	to dance	kuvinidwa – to be initiated kavinidwe\`mabvinidwe – way of dancing

kuvoma*	to give assent, accept	kuvomera – to accept, agree, give assent kuvomereza – to confess kuvomerezeka – to be proper, acceptable, approvable chivomerezo\zi – agreement, confession chisavomerezo\zi – disagreement
kuvulala	to be injured, hurt	kuvulaza – to injure someone else kuvulazidwa – to be injured
kuvuta	to trouble, be troublesome	kuvutitsa – to cause trouble kuvutika – to be troubled vuto\mavuto – trouble, problem
kubwera	to come	kubweretsa – to bring kubweretsedwa – to be brought kubweretsera – to bring to kubwetsa – to bring kubwerera – to return kubwerekka – to borrow, lend kubwereketsa – to lend, lease kubwereza – to repeat, do again chibwereza\zi – repetition
kubweza	1 to revenge; 2 restore; 3 give back	kubwezera – to take revenge kubwezeretsa – to give back, bring back kubwezetsa – to cause to go back, to put back to former state kubwezedwa – to be given back, restored
kubzala (alt. kudzala)	to plant	kubzalidwa – to be planted
kucha (don't confuse with 'kutcha')	1 to become ripe, ripen; 2 to dawn	2 kuchera – to dawn at, on, for 2 Kwacha\Makwacha – money of Malawi and Zambia (meaning: it has dawned)
kuchapa	to wash clothes	kuchapidwa – to be washed
kuchedwa	to be late, be too late	kuchedwetsa – to delay someone kuchedwetsedwa – to be delayed kucheredwa – to be belated, made late
kucheka	to cut into, cut person, animal, tree etc.; make incision; saw boards	kuchekera – to cut for a tattoo or medicine kuchekedwa – to be cut into
kuchenjera	to be clever, smart	kuchenjerera – to trick, get the better of kuchenjeretsa – to trick kuchenjeretsedwa – to be tricked kuchenjeretsetsa – to be very, very clever or tricky kuchenjeza – to warn chenjezo\machenjezo – warning
kuchepa	to be few, little; to be too little or few	kuchepetsa – to make few or small, be too few or small kuchepera – to be fewer, smaller
kucheza	to chat, play, joke	kuchezera – to stay up all night doing something kuchezerana – to chat together kuchezetsa – to cheer up, entertain kuchezeka – to be easy to talk to kuchereza – to cheer up, entertain, chat with mchezo – any kind of kucheza, but especially all night
kuchimwa	to sin	kuchimwira – to sin against kuchimwitsa – to offend, cause to sin tchimo\ machimo – sin
kuchira	to recover, be healed	kuchiza – to heal kuchiritsa – to heal kuchiritsika – to be curable kuchiritsidwa – to be healed machiritso – healings (especially miraculous) mchiritsi\achiritsi – healer
kuchita	to do	kuchititsa – to cause kuchitira – to do to someone kuchitika – to happen kuchitidwa – to be done to someone mchitidwe – way of acting Machitidwe – Acts (Bible) machitachita – action ntchito – work
kuchoka	to leave, go away	kuchokera – to come from kuchotsa – to remove, take away machokero – leaving, reason for leaving
kuchuluka	to be many, much	kuchulukira – to be more than, be too much for kuchulukitsa – to make more kuchulukana – to bear many offspring

kuda	to be dark, black; hate	kudana – to hate each other kudanitsa – to cause to hate each other kuderera – to despise kudetsa – to make dirty, black kudetsedwa – to be made dirty kudedwa – to be hated mdani\adani – enemy chidani\zi – hatred, enmity madedwe – blackness, dirtiness
kudabwa	to wonder, be amazed	kudabwitsa – to be wonderful
kudala	to be blessed	kudalitsa – to bless kudalitsika – to be blessed dalitsa\madalitsa – blessing dalo\madalo – blessing mdala\ madala – familiar name for older man, plural form most common, singular is disrespectful
kudalira	to rely on	kudalirika – to be reliable
kudandaula	to complain	kudandaulira – to reprove, talk to about dandaulo\madandaulo – complaint
kudikira	to wait, wait for	kudikirira – to wait for
kudula	to cut, cut off	kudulidwa – to be cut kuduka – to be cut kudutsa – to pass by, through kudulidwa – to be circumcised mdulidwe – circumcision mdulo – traditional taboos chidule\zi – shortness, summary, shortcut madulira – short cut chidutswa\zi – scrap, broken piece duka\maduka – broken piece of brick
kudula	to be expensive	kudulitsa – to make expensive
kudwala	to be sick	kudwalika – to be very sick kudwalitsa – to make sick
kudya	to eat	kudyetsa – to feed kudyedwa – to be eaten kudyerera – to feast, eat well kudibwa – to be eaten kujiwa – to be eaten kudya – to eat from, off of dyerero\madyerero – feast chidyerano\zi – sharing food together madyedwe – diet, way of eating dyera – selfishness, greediness
kudza	to come	kudzetsa – to bring kudzera – to go by, through
kudzala	to fill, be full	kudzaza – to be full, fill
kudziwa	to know	kudziwitsa – to let someone know kudziwika – to be known chidziwitso\zi – knowledge
kudzola	to rub, smear, anoint oneself	kudzola – to anoint, smear oil on another another mdzodzo\midzodzo (mu mi) – big black ant that stinks
kudzuka	to wake up	kudzutsa – to wake up someone mdzukiro – breakfast kadzutsa – breakfast
kufa	to die	kufetsa – to lose by death (anafetsa ana awiri – two of his children died) kufedwa – to be bereaved kufera – to die for, on imfa – death namfedwa\anamfedwa – bereaved person
kufana	to be similar to, resemble	kufanana – to resemble each other kufanafana – to resemble kufananitsa – to make similar kufaniza – to compare kufanizira – to stand for, represent fanizo\mafanizo – parable, comparison (alt. faniziro) fano\mafano – idol chifanizo\zifanizo – image, representation (alt. chifaniziro) chifanifani\zi – similar thing
kufewa	to be soft, become soft	kufewetsa – to make soft

kufika	to arrive	kufikitsa – to cause to arrive kufikira – to come to
kufulumira	to hurry, go fast, be early	kufulumiza – to hurry up someone else
kufuna	to want, look for; to need	kufunira – to want for kufunitsitsa – to want very badly kufunafuna – to search for kufunika – to be desirable, important chifuniro/zifuniro – desire, will mafuno – wishes, desires
kufunsa	to ask	kufunsira – to ask for (kufunsira mbeta – to ask for marriage) funso\mafunso – question
kufupika	to be short, near	kufupikitsa – to make short kufupikira – to be close to kufupikirana – to be close to each other chifupikitso\zi – summary, abbreviation, shortened thing -fupi (adj. w\ double prefix) – short pafupi – near, close lifupi – width (short side)
kuganiza	to think	kuganizira – to think about, consider ganizo\maganizo – thought chiganizo\ziganizo – sentence, complete thought
kugawa	to share, divide	kugawana – to share with each other kugawikana – to be divided (alt. gawanika) gawo\magawo – section chigawo\zigawo – section kugawira – to share
kugaya	to grind, digest	kugayitsa – to have maize ground at mill kugayidwa – to be ground chigayo\zigayo – maize mill mgaiwa – whole maize flour
kugogoda	to knock	gogogo – ideophone for 'knocking'
kugona	to lay down; to sleep	kugonetsa – to cause one to lie down kugonera – to sleep on kugoneka – to lay something flat, put someone to sleep, admit in hospital (a)li chigonere – to be very sick, bed-ridden mgonero\migonero – dinner, supper, Holy Communion (religious) gone – ideophone, lying down
kugula	to buy, buy from	kugulitsa – to sell kugulira – to buy for (not from) kugulidwa – to be bought kugudwa – to be bought kugulitsidwa – to be sold kugulika – to be cheap
kugunda	to bump, hit, thunder	kugundana – to collide, hit each other kugundika – to take place, be in full swing (party, event, etc.)
kugwa	to fall	kugwetsa – to knock down, cause to fall kugwera – to fall on chigwa\zi – valley, low place
kugwira	to catch, hold, touch	kugwira ntchito – to work kugwiritsa ntchito – to use kugwiritsidwa ntchito – to be used kugwirika – to be done kugwirira ntchito – to work for kugwiritsitsa – to hold on tight kugwirana – to hold each other kugwirizana – to work together, cooperate kugwirizira – to support kugwirira – to rape chigwiro\zi – handle mgwirizano\migwirizano – a union chigwirizano\zi – cooperation, agreement magwiragwira – thievery, theft (munthu wa magwiragwira)
kuika	to put, place	kuikira mazira – to lay eggs
kuima	to stand	kuimira – to stand for, represent kuimirira – to stand up kuimika – to set upright kuimitsa – to stop something or someone
kuipa	to be bad	kuipitsa – to defile, make dirty, bad kuipitsitsa – to be very bad kuipitsidwa – to be defiled, made dirty, bad kuipidwa – to be offended, disgusted

kuitana	to invite, call	kuitanitsa – to order something kuitanidwa – to be called, invited kuitanira malonda – to advertise maitanidwe – calling; callings
kuiwala	to forget	kuiwalira – to forget temporarily, have something slip your mind
kukayika	to doubt	kukayikitsa – to be doubtful kukayikira – to be unsure, doubtful about something kukayikika – to be doubtful chikayiko\zi – doubt
kukalamba	to grow old	nkhalamba – elderly person
kukamba	to talk, speak about	kukambidwa – to be said, be spoken kukambirana – to discuss with another kakambidwe\ makambidwe – way of speaking
kukana	to refuse, deny	kukanika – to fail kukanidwa – to be refused kukanirira – to stick to kukanitsitsa – to utterly deny or refuse kukaniza – to resist, prevent
kukhala	to be, sit, stay	kukhalitsa – to stay for long time, put kukhalira – to stay at, sit on kukhalidwa – to be lived in (of a house), to be sat on (of a chair) khalidwe\makalidwe – way of being or doing (characteristic, custom, character, attribute, etc.) mkhalidwe – way of being or doing chikhalidwe\zi – way of being or doing mkhalakale\ a – (or chikhalakale\zi) old member, someone settled for very long time mkhalapakati\ a – mediator, go-between chikhaliro\zi – that on which something rests or sits, bottom, base, support
kukhazika	to settle something down, establish	kukhazikika – to be established, settled kukhazikitsa – to establish, settle down s – thing chikhazikiko\zi – assurance, stability chikhazikitso\zi – an assuring thing
kukhudza	to touch	kukhudzana – to touch each other, relate, have to do with
kukhulupira*	to believe	kukhulupirira – to believe, believe in kukhulupirika – to be faithful, trustworthy kukhulupiridwa – to be believed chikhulupiro\zi – faith, belief, creed
kukhumudwa	to be offended	kukhumudwitsa – to offend khumu – (ideophone) offended
kukhuta	to be full, satisfied	kukhutitsa – to satisfy kukhutira – to be full of, satisfied with mkhuto – fullness, satisfaction
kukola	to trap, catch, snag	kukoleka – to hang something on kukoleza moto – to start a fire kukolera – to be salty, sweet kukoleretsa – to make salty kukodwa – to be caught, snagged chikoka\zi – attraction, appeal chikole\zi – gift given to obligate a return gift; pledge
kukoma	to be good, nice, sweet	kukomera – to please, be nice for kukometsa – to make better, spice up, beautify chikometsero\zi – decoration chikometsamlandu\zi – bribe, corruption at court
kukonda	to love	kukondera – to prefer, be partial toward kukondedwa – to be loved kukondeka – to be loved kukondana – to love each other chikondi\zi – love chikondano\zi – love, mutual love
kukondwa	to be happy, glad	kukondwera – to be happy glad kukondwerera – to be happy, glad kukondweretsa – to please, make happy kukondweretsedwa – to be pleased, happy chikondwerero\zi – joy, happiness
kukonza	to prepare, repair	kukonzeka – to be prepared, repaired kukonzekera – to get ready chikonzekero\zi – preparation, readiness chikonzero\zi – plan, preparation, decision Chikonzedwe cha Mpingo – the Reformation kakonzedwe\makonzedwe – method of preparation

		mkonzi\akonzi – editor
kukula	to grow, be large	kukulira – to be larger than kukulitsa – to make larger ukulu – size, greatness -kulu – double prefix adjective, big, large mkulu\akulu – older sibling, elder, great ones
kukumbuka	to remember, call to mind	kukumbukira – to remember kukumbutsa – to remind kukumbutsira – to remind kukumbukirika – to be memorable kukumbukiritsidwa – to be reminded chikumbukiro\zi – memory, remembrance chikumbumtima\zi – conscience, memory chikumbutso\zi – reminder, memorial; memorial ceremony for dead
kukwana	to be enough, suffice, be satisfied	kukwaniritsa – to fulfill kukwaniritsidwa – to be fulfilled kukwanira – to be enough for
kukwata*	to have marriage relations	kukwatitsa – to have the wedding ceremony kukwatira – to marry (of man) kukwatirana – to marry each other kukwatiwa – to be married (of woman) ukwati\maukwati – marriage, wedding chikwati\zikwati – marriage, wedding mkwatibwi\akwatibwi – bride mkwati\akwati – bridegroom
kukwera	to climb, ascend	kukweza – to lift up, raise makwerero – ladder, steps chikwera\zi – elevation
kukwiya	to be angry	kukwiyitsa – to make one angry kukwiyira – to be angry at mkwiyo – anger, wrath
kulakwa	to do wrong	kulakwira – to do wrong to kulakwitsa – to be mistaken, in language, math, etc. kulakwika – to be imperfect, mistaken, faulty
kulalika	to proclaim, preach	kulalikira – to preach, proclaim kulaliki\idwa – to be preached, proclaimed mlaliki\alaliki – preacher ulaliki\maulaliki – sermon, preaching
kulamula	to give an order, command	kulamulira – to rule, command kulamuliridwa – to be ruled, governed lamulo\malamulo – law, commandment chilamulo – law ulamuliro\maulamuliro – authority, rulership mlamuliri\alamuliri – ruler, dictator mlamu\alamu – in-law (brother or sister of one's spouse)
kulanda	to take away, snatch from	kulandira – to receive kalanditsa – to rescue kalandiritsa – to distribute kulandidwa – to be stolen, taken away
kulanga	to punish, instruct	kulangiza – to instruct langizo\malangizo – instruction, advice lango\malango – advice chilango\zilango – punishment mlangizi\alangizi – instructor, advisor
kulankhula	to speak, talk	kuyankhula (alt. spelling) kulankhulira – to talk to kalankhulidwe\malankhulidwe – way of speaking chilankhulo\zilankhulo – language
kuleka	to leave something, stop doing something	kulekerera – to ignore, not worry about, condone kulekeza – to stop at, border on kuleketsa – to separate malekezero – borders, ends malekano – split in road, junction kuletsa – to forbid, hinder kuletsedwa – to be forbidden, hindered
kulema*	to be burdened, tired	kulemera – to be heavy, rich kulemetsa – to be tiring, make tired, make weary kulemeretsa – to make rich, heavy kulemekeza – to honour, respect kulemekezedwa – to be honoured, respected kulemekezeka – to be honourable ulemu\maulemu – honour, respect ulemerero\maulemerero – glory

		chilemekezo\zi – honour, exaltation
kulemba	to write	kulembetsa – to register kulembera – to write to kulembedwa – to be written lemba\malemba – letter, writing, scripture lembo\malembo – letter, writing, scripture chilembo\zi – letter, character kalembera\akalembera – census kalembedwe\malembedwe – way of writing, hand-writing
kulenga	to create	kulengedwa – to be created kulengera – to create for kalengedwe\malengedwe – way of being created chilengedwe\zi – nature, natural Mlengi\Alengi – Creator Namalenga\Anamalenga – Creator mlengalenga – sky, atmosphere
kulima	to hoe, cultivate, grow (as in 'grow cabbage')	kulimitsa – to hire someone to hoe kulimira – to hoe for kulimidwa – to be cultivated ulimi\maulimi – agriculture, farming mlimi\alimi – farmer kalimidwe\malimidwe – way of hoeing, cultivating chilimwe – hot, dry season when hoeing is done
kulimba	to be hard, firm, strong	kulimbana – to struggle with, to discuss, argue kulimbitsa – to make strong kulimbika – to be diligent kulimbikira – to be diligent in something, courageous kulimbikitsa – to encourage, make courageous ulimbo – glue made from tree sap chilimbikitsa\zi – strength, encouragement, support
kulinga*	to measure, to aim at, to indicate (?)	kulingana – to equal, be similar kulinganiza – to compare, balance malingana ndi – (adverb) since, according to, seeing as malinga ndi – same as above <i>kulingirira – to consider</i> <i>malingiliro – consideration</i> mlingo\milingo – measurement, size cholinga\zolinga – aim, goal, purpose
kulipira	to pay	kulipirira – to pay in place of kulipiritsa – to charge, demand money, fine dipo – price, court fine malipiro – pay for work
kulira	to cry	kulirira – to cry for kuliritsa – to cry much, loudly kuliza – to blow trumpet, whistle maliro – funeral, mourning
kulola	to allow	kuloleza – allow kuloledwa – be allowed chilolezo\zi – permission
kulonjeza	to promise	lonjezo\malonjezo – promise lonjezano\malonjezano – promise, mutual agreement chilonjezo\zi – promise
kulowa	to enter	kulowana – to live together without marriage kulowerana – to mix with each other, enter into each other kuloweza – to memorize kulowera – to go a certain place or direction kulowetsa – to put in kulowerera – to go prodigal, loose lowu – (ideophone) signifies entering mlowam'malo – pronoun, substitute, successor
kuluma	to bite	kulumidwa – to be bitten kulumana – to bite each other kulumikiza – to connect kulumikizana – to connect to each other mlumikizi\alumikizi – mediator, go-between; conjunction
kulungama	to be just, righteous	kulungamitsa – to justify kulungamitsidwa – to be justified chilungamo\zi – righteousness, justice
kumaliza	to finish, end	kumalizira – to finish at kumalizika – to be finished kumalizitsa – to totally finish off chimaliziro\zi – ending mamaliziro – end, consequence, result

kumanga	to tie, tighten, arrest, build	kumangira – to tie up with kumangana – to stick together kumangika – to be tied up, tightened, restrained kamangidwe\mamangidwe – way of building, tying chimangirizo\zi – composition, essay
kumasula	to loosen, untie	kumasulira – to interpret kumasulidwa – to be loosened kumasuka – to be loosened, feel free kamasulidwe\mmasulidwe – interpretation
kumera	to germinate, sprout	mmera – sprout chimera\zi – sprouted grains for beverages
kumenya	to hit, beat, fight; to play ball, any other game; to do, engage in	kumenyetsa – to beat much kumenyera – to fight for kumenyana – to fight each other
kumva	to hear, understand, feel	kumvera – to obey, feel for kumvetsa – to understand kumvetsera – to listen to kumvetsetsa – to understand completely kumveka – to be audible kumvana – to agree, understand each other chimvano\zi – alliance, league, concord mvano – agreement, league mvekero – ideophone (alt. mvetsero) mwa chimvemvemve – clearly
kumwa	to drink	kumwera – to drink with (bread with tea, etc.) kumwetsa – to give drink, make one drink kumwedwa – to be drunk (of drink, not drunkard!) chakumwa\za – drink
kunama	to lie	kunamiza – to deceive kunamizana – to deceive each other kunamizira – to pretend; accuse, slander
kunena	to say, talk about	kuneneza – to accuse kunenetsa – to say bad about s.one kunenedwa – to be talked about, said kuneneka – to be able to be said kunenera – to speak for, prophesy chinenero\zi – language mneneri\aneneri – prophet mneni\aneni – verb kanenedwe\manenedwe – way of speaking, saying (alt. chinenedwe)
kung'amba	to tear	kung'ambika – to be torn, ripped kung'ambira – to tear the thing of someone (ex. Wanding'ambira zobvala. He has torn my clothes.) chigamba\zigamba – patch ng'amba – dry spell, drought
kununkha	to stink, smell bad	kununkhiza – to sniff, smell kununkhira – to smell good
kunyada	to be proud	kunyadira – to be proud of manyado – pride, boasting
kunyamula	to carry on something, carry	kunyamuka – to leave, go
kunyansa	to be filthy, disgusting; to make one feel disgusted	kunyansitsa – to make dirty, disgusting kunyansidwa – to be turned off, disgusted nyansi – filthy things
kunyenga	to deceive	kunyengerera – to trick, cheat; to entice, appease child with something kunyengeza – to deceive nyenga\anyenga – deceiver; mongoose chinyengo\zinyengo – deceit
kunyoza	to despise	kunyozedwa – to be despised kunyozera – to ignore; disregard kunyozeka – to be despicable; be of no repute, be small and inconspicuous kunyozetsa – to talk bad to, about; to disparage
kuocha	to burn, roast	kuochera – to weld kuochedwa – to be burnt
kuoloka	to cross over (road, river)	kuolokera – to cross over to kuolotsa – to take over to the other side
kuomba	to hit, beat, sound, shoot	kuombedwa – to be hit, sounded, shot, etc. kuombeza maula – cast lots, divine, magically discover something through sing'anga kuombera – to shoot at kuomberana – to shoot each other

kuona	to see, be true	kuonetsa – to show kuoneka – to be visible kuonera – to attend, look at kuonetsera – to show to someone kuonetsetsa – to make sure kuonana – to see each other kuonekera – to stick out, be obvious; to appear to maonekedwe – appearance chionetsero\zi – show, showing off
kuongola	to make straight	kuongoleka – to be made straight, straightened kuongoledwa – to be made straight kuongoka – to be straight kuongolera – to direct in a straight way, drive chiongolero\zi – steering wheel chiongoladzanja – interest (money)
kuononga	to destroy, waste	kuonongeka – to be destroyed chionongeko\zionongeko – destruction
kuopa	to fear	kuopana – to fear each other kuopera – to hold back for fear of kuopetsa – to cause to fear
kuopsya (alt. kuopsa)	to be frightening, dreadful	kuopsyeza – to frighten, threaten, or act fierce kuopsyedwa – to be frightened, made to fear
kupala	to scrape, smooth; to make friends	kupalana – to make friends with each other kupalira – to weed in the garden kupalidwa chibwenzi – to be betrothed kaphalephale – weeding
kupambana	to be greater, do greater, win, excell	kupambanitsa – to make to win, excell chipambano\zi – victory, excellence mphambano –crossroads
kupanga	to make, to do	kupangitsa – to make to do kupangidwa – to be made, done kupangira – to advise someone, to make with, to do to kupangana – to agree kupangika – to happen, be done chipangano\zi – agreement, covenant pangano\mapangano – agreement, covenant kapangidwe\mapangidwe – way of doing, making chipangizo\zi – tool, instrument
kupatsa	to give to	kupatsira – to give to for a little time, to give to someone through another kupatsirana – to be contagious kupatsidwa – to be given chipatso\zipatso – fruit mphotso – gift
kupemba*	to implore, beg, honour	kupembedza – to worship, do religious acts kupembedzera – to worship, worship for chipembedzo\zi – religion, worship
kupempha	to ask for something; to beg from	kupemphera – to pray kupempherera – to pray for pemphe\mapempho – plea, request pemphe\mapemphero – prayer, religious things
kupereka	to offer, give	kuperekeza – to accompany kuperekedwa – to be offered, given up
kupeza	to find	kupezeka – to be found, available kupezera – to find for
kupha	to kill	kuphera – to kill with, for, etc. kuphana – to kill each other kuphetsa – to cause to die indirectly kupheka – to be killable
kuphika	to cook, boil	kuphikira – to cook for kuphikika – to be fully cooked kuphikidwa – to be cooked (especially boiled) mphika\miphika – pot for cooking ndiwo
kuphunzira	to learn	kuphunzitsa – to teach kuphunzitsidwa – to be taught phunziro\ maphunziro – lesson chiphunzitsa\zi – teaching, doctrine
kupinda	to bend	kupindika – to be bent
kupindula	to gain, earn profit	kupindulitsa – to profit, make richer kupindulira – be profitable, be profitable because of phindu\mapindu – profit

kupita	to go	kupititsa – to put through, make go kupitirira – to go on kupitiriza – to continue mpita\mipita – small path of animal
kuponda	to step on, tread on	kupondereza – to oppress kuponedwa – to be stepped on chipondero\zi – sole of foot, hoof mpondamakwacha – very rich person
kuposa	to excel, be more than	kuposera – to go beyond a certain point or person
kupsya (kupsa)	to be ripe, cooked	kupsyerera – to be burned, like food; charred; to be burned by sun or fertilizer kupsyereza – to burn, char something chipsyera\zi – scar; burn
kupulumutsa	to save	kupulumuka – to be saved chipulumutso – salvation
kupuma	to breathe , rest	kupumula – to rest kupumulira – to rest, take a break mpumulo – rest phuma – nervousness, being out of breath; sometimes used for asthma mphumu (or mphumo) – asthma
kupweteka	to hurt, cause pain; to feel pain	kupweteketsa – to cause injury, cause to hurt kupwetekedwa – to be hurt
kusakaniza	to mix up	kusakanizika – to be mixed up
kusamala	to care for, to heed	kusamalira – to care for kusamalitsa – to be very careful of, care diligently for chisamaliro\zi – care
kusamba	to bathe, wash self	kusambitsa – to wash another, wash a part of the body kusambira – to swim kusambitsidwa – to be washed chisambiro\zi – sponge, thing to wash with
kusanduka	to be changed into, to change self into	kusandulika – be changed, transformed into kusandutsa – to transform, change into
kusangalala	to be happy, pleased	kusangalatsa – to please, make happy kusangalatsidwa – to be made happy, pleased chisangalalo\zi – happiness, joy msangala – happiness
kusankha	to choose	kusankhika – to be chosen kusankhidwa – to be chosen kusankhira – to choose because of , for kusankhula – to choose, distinguish, etc. chisankho\zi – choice, election, vote tsankho – prejudice, partiality
kusauka	to be poor, suffer	kusautsa – to trouble, make poor, persecute kusaukira – to be poor, suffer because of kusautesidwa – to be persecuted, caused to suffer, be poor nsautso – suffering masautso – suffering chisautso\zi – suffering
kusazika	to say goodbye	kusazikana – to say goodbye to each other kusazikira – to say goodbye for another
kusefuka	to overflow	kusefukira – to flood, overflow banks
kuseka	to laugh at	kusekera – be glad, rejoice, smile kusekerera – to be glad, smile, be full of happiness kuseketsa – be funny, causing to laugh kusekedwa – to be laughed at
kusesa	to sweep	kusesera – to sweep for kusesedwa – to be swept
kusewera	to play	kuseweretsa – to play with, mess around with masewera – game, games, play sewero\masewero – game, play
kusinja	to pound to pieces	kusinjirira – to slander, accuse nsinjiro – peanut powder
kusintha	to change something or someone, switch out	kusinthika – to be changed kusinthana – to exchange places with another person kusinthanitsa – to trade out one thing with another kusinhitsa – to cause a change
kusirira	to covet, want badly	kusiririka – to be desirable chisiriro – covetousness

kusiya	to leave, abandon	kusiyira – to leave something with someone kusiyrana – to pass on tradition, customs, etc. kusiwidwa – to be left kusiwana – to be different kusiyanitsa – to differentiate, compare -a masiye – orphaned, widowed, bereaved
kusochera (alt. kusokera)	to get lost	kusocheretsa – to make to get lost kusocheretsedwa – to be led astray
kusokoneza	to confuse, interrupt	kusokonekera – to be confused, interrupted, disturbed kusokonezeka – to be confused, etc. kusokonezedwa – to be confused, etc. chisokonezo\zi – confusion, interruption
kusonkha	to gather, collect	kusonkheza – to gather together materials kusonkhana – to gather together, meet together kusonkhanitsa – to bring together a meeting msonkhano\misonkhano – meeting msonkho\misonkho – tax
kusowa	to lack, be lost, missing	kusoweka – be needed kusowetsa – to cause to be missing kusowekera – to miss, lack, need
kusunga	to keep, keep safely	kusungitsa – to entrust with, to make to keep kusungira – to keep for kusungidwa – to be kept kusungiza – to entrust, etc. kusungana – to keep each other
kuswa	to shatter something, break something (Refers to pottery, glass, and other like things. Kuthyola refers to things like sticks, etc.); bear young (animals)	kusweka – be broken, shattered kuswana – bear many children
kutalika	to be tall, far	kutalikitsa – to make tall, far kutalikira – to be too tall, far; be taller than; go far kutalikirana – to be far from each other -tali – (double prefix adjective) long patali, kutali – far away litali – length
kutanthauza	to mean, signify	kutanthauzira – to interpret, show meaning tanthauzo\matanthauzo – meaning, interpretation mtanthauziramawu – dictionary
kutaya	to throw away, lose	kutayika – to be lost kutayirira – to go all the way in sin, wickedness, etc. chitayiko\zi – lostness, perdition mtayo\mitayo – miscarried baby chitayo\zi – abortion, miscarriage; miscarried baby
kutchu	1 to name; 2 to pick fruit; 3 to set (trap, alarm, etc.)	1 kutchula – to name, pronounce 1 kutchuka – to be famous, well – known 1 kutchudwa – to be called, named 1 kutchulira – to pronounce 4 kutchera – to set trap, alarm, etc. for something 4 kutcheredwa – to be set 4 matchera – trap, noose 4 tcheru – (ideophone) attentive wide awake
kutembenuka	to turn around, be turned around	kutembenkira – to be turned toward kutembenuza – to turn someone or something around
kutenga	to take	kutengana – to resemble each other, pick one another kutengera ndi – depending on kutengedwa – to be taken kutengeka – to be taken, attracted, busy chitengero\zi – vessel, carrier chitengwa\zi – 1 taking wife to stay with man's family; 2 the process of doing that; 3 the Chewa system that normally requires the man to stay at wife's home village
kutentha	to be hot, burn something	kutenthetsa – to make hot kutenthedwa – be burned, be lit on fire
kutha	1 to be able, can; 2 finish, be used up	kuthetsa – to get rid of, cause to be gone kutheka – to be a possibility kuthedwa – to use up, or lack (ndathedwa nzeru – I don't know what to do) kuthera – 1 to finish or be used up in relation to someone (zandithera – I don't have any left, they finished in relation to me); 2 to land, of a bird kuthana – to be finished in relation to each other, to complete a transaction, to be free from each other, to finish a relationship mathero – borders, furthest extents, end

kuthamanga	to run	kuthamangitsa – to chase kuthamangira – to run for, to
kuthandiza	to help, assist	kuthandizana – to help each other kuthandizidwa – to be helped chithandizo\zi – help, aid, assistance mthandizi\athandizi – helper
kuthawa	to run away from, escape from	kuthawitsa – to chase away kuthawira – to run away to kuthawitsidwa – to be chased away
kuthira	to pour	kuthirira – to pour on, to irrigate, to water kuthiridwa – to have something poured on it (chimanga chathiridwa feteleza – the maize has had fertilizer applied to it)
kuthokoza	to thank	kuthokozero – to thank instead of kuthokozedwa – to be thanked chithokozi\zi – thanks
kuthyola	to break (a stick or bone); to pick (a fruit)	kuthyolera – to pick for kuthyoka – to be broken kuthyoledwa – to be picked
kutola	to pick up and carry along	kutolera – to pick up here and there kutoledwa – to be picked up matola – transport mtolo\mitolo – bundle, burden mtolankhani\atolankhani – reporter
kutopa	to be tired, weary	kutopetsa – to be wearisome, make tired
kutsala	to be left behind	kutsalira – be left over, stay behind
kutsanzira	to copy, follow, imitate	chitsanzo\zi – example
kutsata	to follow	kutsatira – to follow after, be after, result kutsatana – to follow each other mwa tsatanetsatane – in order
kutsegula	to open	kutseguka – to be open, opened kutsegulira – to open for
kutseka	to close	kutsekerera – to lock someone or something up kutsekeka – to be closed kutsekereza – to block, intercept chitseko\zi – door
kutsika	to go down, descend	kutsikira – to go down to kutsitsa – to bring down, make go down
kutsiriza	to finish, to end	kutsirizika – to be finished off, finished, done tsirizo\matsirizo – end, finish
kutsogola	to go before, in front	kutsogolera – to lead kutsogoza – to put in front, direct mtsogoleri\atsogoleri – leader tsogolo – ahead, future
kutsutsa	to condemn, argue against, refute	kutsutsana – to argue, disagree kutsutsidwa – to be convicted, condemned, to be reproved kutsutsika – be refutable tsutsano\matsutsano – argument mitsutso\mitsutso – debate, argument mitsutsi\atsutsi – objector, opposer
kutuluka	to exit, go out	kutulukira – to go out by kutulutsa – to put out, make to go out
kutuma	to send somebody	kutumiza – to send something (not usually a person) kutumidwa – to be sent (of person) kutumizidwa – to be sent (of thing) kutumikira – to serve mtumiki\atumiki – servant, minister utumiki\mautumiki – servanthood, ministry mtumwi\atumwi – apostle
kuwala	to shine	kuwalira – to shine on waliwali (ideophone) – shining
kuwerenga	to read, count	kuwerengera – to account to kuwerengeka – to be few chiwerengero\zi – number, count of something werengero\mawerengero – items used for counting exercises in schools muwerengi\awerengi – reader
kuweruka	to finish work or school for the day and go home	kuwerutsa – to send home from school, work; to come to school or work, etc., just when the other people are leaving

kuweruza	to judge	kuweruzika – to be admonishable (alt. kuyeruzika) kuweruzidwa – to be judged chiweruzo\zi – judgment chiweruziro\zi – judgment
kuyaka	to be lit, start burning, burn	kuyatsa – to light, start a fire
kuyala	to spread out something, lay out	kuyalika – to be spread kuyalula – to roll back up
kuyamba	1 to start, be first; 2 pick a fight against someone	1 kuyambitsa – to start something 1 kuyambira – to begin, be at the beginning, start from 1 kuyambika – to be started 1 yambiro\mayambiro – beginning 1 chiyambi – beginning 2 kuyambana – to fight each other
kuyamika	to thank, praise, exalt	kuyamikira – to appreciate, to praise a person yamiko\mayamiko – praise
kuyandikira	to approach, to come near	kuyandikana – to be near each other (alt. kuyandikirana) kuyandikiza – to bring close
kuyang'ana	to look at, to look	kuyang'anira – to look into, investigate, supervise, deal with kuyang'anitsa – to cause one to look at kuyang'anitsitsa – to look at very closely kuyang'anizana – to face each other
kuyanja*	to fit, to be suitable	kuyanjana – to fellowship, to work together kuyanjanitsa – to reconcile, make to work together chijanano\zi – fellowship, concord chijanano\zi – thing that reconciles, reconciliation
kuyankha	to answer	kuyankhidwa – to be answered yankho\mayankho – answer
kuyembekeza	to expect, to hope	kuyembekezera – to expect something, to be pregnant, to wait for kuyembekezeka – to be possible, expected chiyembekezo\zi – hope, expectation
kuyenda	to travel, walk	kuyendetsa – to drive, to move, to cause to go kuyendera – 1 to visit; 2 to move because of, by the power of (Galimoto iyi imayendera petulo. This car runs on petrol.) kuyenderana – to go together, to visit each other mwendo\miyendo – leg mlendo\alendo – traveler, stranger ulendo\maulendo – journey mayendedwe – movement, way of walking, travelling chilendo – strangeness, foreignness
kuyenera	to be worthy, to be fitting, must, should	kuyenereza – to qualify, make proper
kuyera	to be white, light, cleared, holy	kuyeretsa – to clean, make white; to clear; make holy; sanctify kuyeretsedwa – to be made white, etc. chiyero – holiness, purity chiyeretso – sanctification
kuyerekeza	to imagine; to guess; to compare	kuyerekezera – to compare, signify chiyerekezo\zi – assumption, imagination, guess
kuyesa	to try, measure; to consider to be	kuyesetsa – to try hard kuyesedwa – to be tried, measured; to be thought of as kuyesera – to test, tempt; to try more mayeso – test, exam yesero\mayesero – temptation, testing muyeso – measurement, standard, size, limit
kuzindikira	to recognize, know, realize	kuzindikiritsa – to cause one to know, recognize chizindikiro\zi – sign, mark chizindikiritso\zi – assurance
kuzizira	to be cold	kuziziritsa – to make cold kuzizidwa – to be chilled
kuzolowera	to become used to	kuzoloweretsa – to make to be accustomed kuzoloweza – to make to be accustomed chizolowezi\zi – habit, custom
kuzungulira	to go around, surround; to rotate, go around and around	kuzunguza – to confuse someone, make to go around chizungulire – dizziness
kuzunza	to afflict, cause pain to	kuzunzika – to suffer, be afflicted kuzunzidwa – to be persecuted, made to suffer mazunzo – affliction, suffering