

Similarities

- Both growths can increase the size of the plants permanently.
- Both growths occur in woody plants.
- Both growths involve cell division by mitosis

Differences

Primary growth	Aspect	Secondary growth
Apical meristem	Meristem tissue involved	Lateral meristem (vascular cambium and cork cambium)
Occurs on stems and roots in younger regions of the plant	Parts of the plant that undergo growth	Occurs when primary growth has ceased on matured stems and roots
Growth occurs longitudinally	Direction of growth	Growth occurs radially
Increases the length of stems and roots of plant	Growth effects	Increases the thickness or circumference of stems and roots of plant
Epidermis, cortex and primary vascular tissues (primary xylem and primary phloem)	Tissues and structures formed	Bark, periderm (cork cambium and cork tissues), lenticels and secondary vascular tissues (secondary xylem and secondary phloem)
Do not have woody tissues	Presence of woody tissues	Have woody tissues
Thin	Thickness of bark	Thick
Absence of annual growth rings	Presence of annual growth rings	Presence of annual growth rings at the plant stem