The Kashaya verb is highly synthetic and fusional, with morphophonemic alternations not only at morpheme boundaries but also, in the cases of length and pitch, occurring three or four syllables after the "causing" morpheme.

There is one class of verbs which takes instrumental prefixes with some vowel harmony; otherwise there are no verbal prefixes. Other than prefixation, the processes include one-syllable reduplication, denoting action repeated a few times; two-syllable reduplication, denoting action repeated many times rapidly; infixation for certain allomorphs of the morpheme of Plural Act; replacement of /d/ by /c/ denoting Plural Agent; subtraction of /h, ',/ accompany the affixation of many suffixes; and suffixation in fifteen classes.

The suffixes denote position on or off the ground; distributive, semelfactive, durative, or habitual action; directions; causation; reflexive or reciprocal action; negative; performance of the action by a deceased person or in the remote or near past, or in the present. There are evidentials, indicating the means by which the speaker learned of the action; modals; imperatives; futures; an interrogative; a responsive indicating that the statement is a reply; and an absolutive form. Among various deverbative suffixes one is nominalizing and several are adverbializing, the latter indicating whether the agent of the subordinate verb is the same as that of the main verb, and whether the actions are simultaneous or sequential.

Most nouns are uninflected in form but there are subclasses which have case endings—demonstratives, pronouns, personal names, and kinship terms. At the maximum, the cases indicated are the subjective, objective, possessive, vocative, locative, and comitative. The kinship subclass, in addition to the case suffixes, has five possessive prefixes. These are the formal and informal first person, second person, third person, and reflexive.

Other word classes are the adjectives, adverbs, interjections, and enclitics. The enclitics contain many subclasses with few members each, corresponding mainly to English prepositions and conjunctions.

Derivation is meager. Only in the verb and pronoun is number indicated internally; in nouns it may be shown by means of an enclitic. Noun + noun compounds are frequent. Rarer, but existent, are other compounds among the four major classes—verb, noun, adjective, and adverb.
In noun+noun constructions, the head noun is last. In noun+adjective constructions, the head noun is first. Enclitics are last in their phrase. Subordinate (adverbialized or nominalized by suffixes) verbs are always last in their clause. The main verb is most frequently, but not necessarily, at the end of the sentence. Immediate constituents are, as far as possible, adjacent to each other. Otherwise word order is free.