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fault



fault

Popularity

53 ENTRIES FOUND:

1) fault (noun)

2) fault (verb)

fault block (noun)

fault *noun* \ˈfôlt, in poetry also ˈfôt\

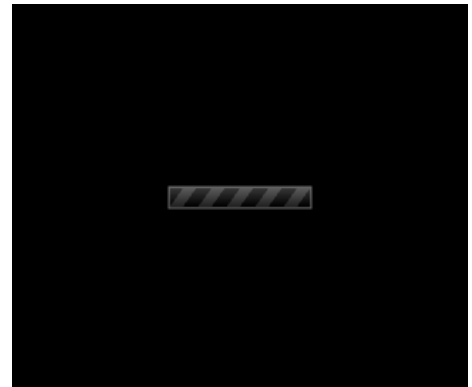
Definition of FAULT

- 1 *obsolete* : [LACK](#)
- 2 **a** : [WEAKNESS](#), [FAILING](#); *especially* : a moral weakness less serious than a vice
b : a physical or intellectual imperfection or impairment : [DEFECT](#)
c : an error especially in service in a net or racket game
- 3 **a** : [MISDEMEANOR](#)
b : [MISTAKE](#)
- 4 : responsibility for wrongdoing or failure <the accident was the driver's *fault*>
- 5 : a fracture in the crust of a planet (as the earth) or moon accompanied by a displacement of one side of the fracture with respect to the other usually in a direction parallel to the fracture
 - **at fault**
 - 1 : unable to find the scent and continue chase
 - 2 : open to blame : [RESPONSIBLE](#) <couldn't determine who was really *at fault*>
 - **to a fault**
 - : to an excessive degree <precise *to a fault*>

See [fault](#) defined for English-language learners »
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Examples of FAULT

- Lack of courage is his worst *fault*.
- If the book has a *fault*, it's that it's too long.
- It's your own *fault* you missed that bus.
- Through no *fault* of his own, he won't be able to attend the meeting.



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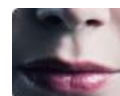
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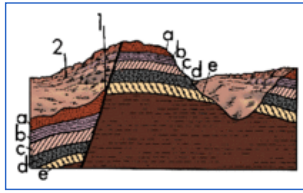
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Words For Things You Didn't Know Have Names



- She committed too many *faults* to win the match.

Illustration of FAULT



Origin of FAULT

Middle English *faute*, *falte*, from Anglo-French, from Vulgar Latin **fallita*, from feminine of *fallitus*, past participle of Latin *fallere* to deceive, disappoint

First Known Use: 13th century

Related to FAULT

Synonyms: [demerit](#), [dereliction](#), [failing](#), [foible](#), [frailty](#), [shortcoming](#), [sin](#), [vice](#), [want](#), [weakness](#), [feet of clay](#)

Antonyms: [merit](#), [virtue](#)

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Synonym Discussion of FAULT

FAULT, **FAILING**, **FRAILITY**, **FOIBLE**, **VICE** mean an imperfection or weakness of character. **FAULT** implies a failure, not necessarily culpable, to reach some standard of perfection in disposition, action, or habit <a writer of many virtues and few *faults*>. **FAILING** suggests a minor shortcoming in character <being late is a *failing* of mine>. **FRAILITY** implies a general or chronic proneness to yield to temptation <human *frailties*>. **FOIBLE** applies to a harmless or endearing weakness or idiosyncrasy <an eccentric's charming *foibles*>. **VICE** can be a general term for any imperfection or weakness, but it often suggests violation of a moral code or the giving of offense to the moral sensibilities of others <compulsive gambling was his *vice*>.

Rhymes with FAULT

[Balt](#), [gault](#), [halt](#), [malt](#), [Olt](#), [salt](#), [smalt](#), [vault](#), [volt](#)

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