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em-bas-sy \em-ba-sē/ *n*, *pl* -sies [MF *ambassee*, ultim. of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *ambast* service] (1334) 1: a body of diplomatic representatives; *specif*: one headed by an ambassador 2: a the function or position of an ambassador b: a mission abroad undertaken officially esp. by an ambassador 3: **EMBASSY** 4: the official residence and offices of an ambassador

em-bat-tle \im-ba-tl/ *vt* **em-bat-tled**; **em-bat-tling** \-bat-ling, -t'l-ling/ [ME *embataillen*, fr. MF *embatailler*, fr. *en-* + *batailler* to battle] (14c) 1: to arrange in order of battle; prepare for battle 2: **FORTIFY**

em-bat-tled *adj* (15c) 1: a: ready to fight; prepared to give battle (here once the ~ farmers stood —R. W. Emerson) b: engaged in battle, conflict, or controversy (an ~ official accused of extortion) 2: a: being a site of battle, conflict, or controversy (the ~ capital) b: characterized by conflict or controversy (an ~ ratings system)

em-bat-tle-ment \-ba-t'l-mant/ *n* (15c) 1: **BATTLEMENT** 2: the state of being embattled

em-bay \im-bā/ *vt* (1582) 1: to trap or catch in or as if in a bay (an ~ed sailing ship)

em-bay-ment \-bā-mant/ *n* (1815) 1: formation of a bay 2: a bay or a conformation resembling a bay

Em-ben \em-ben/ *n* [Emden, Germany] (1903) 1: a breed of large white domestic geese with an orange bill and deep orange shanks and toes

em-bed \im-bed/ *vb* **em-bed-ded**; **em-bed-ding** *vt* (ca. 1794) 1: a: to enclose closely in or as if in a matrix (fossils embedded in stone) b: to make something an integral part of (the prejudices embedded in our language) c: to prepare (a microscopy specimen) for sectioning by infiltrating with and enclosing in a supporting substance 2: to surround closely (a sweet pulp ~s the plum seed) ~ *vi*: to become embedded — **em-bed-ment** \-bed-mant/ *n*

em-bed-ded \im-bed-ded/ *adj* (1961) 1: occurring as a grammatical constituent (as a verb phrase or clause) within a like constituent — **em-bed-ding** \-ding/ *n*

em-bel-lish \im-be-lish/ *vt* [ME, fr. MF *embelliss-*, stem of *embellir*, fr. *en-* + *bel* beautiful — more at **BEAUTY**] (14c) 1: to make beautiful with ornamentation; **DECORATE** 2: to heighten the attractiveness of by adding ornamental details; **ENHANCE** (~ed our account of the trip) *syn* **see** **ADORN** — **em-bel-lish-er** *n*

em-bel-lish-ment \-lsh-mant/ *n* (1591) 1: the act or process of embellishing 2: something serving to embellish 3: **ORNAMENT**

em-ber \em-bar/ *n* [ME *eymere*, fr. ON *eimyrja*, akin to OE *æmre* ashes, *L. uere* to burn] (14c) 1: a glowing fragment (as of coal) from a fire; *esp*: one smoldering in ashes 2: *pl*: the smoldering remains of a fire 3: *pl*: slowly dying or fading emotions, memories, ideas, or responses still capable of being revived

ember day \em-bar/ *n* [ME, fr. OE *ymbrendæg*, fr. *ymbrene* circuit, anniversary + *dæg* day] (bef. 12c) 1: a Wednesday, Friday, or Saturday following the first Sunday in Lent, Whitsunday, September 14, or December 13 set apart for fasting and prayer in Western churches

em-bez-zle \im-be-zal/ *vt* **em-bez-zled**; **em-bez-zling** \-(ə-)ling/ [ME *embesillen*, fr. AF *embesiller*, fr. MF *en-* + *besillier* to destroy] (15c) 1: to appropriate (as property entrusted to one's care) fraudulently to one's own use — **em-bez-zle-ment** \-zal-mant/ *n* — **em-bez-zler** \-(ə-)lar/ *n*

em-bit-ter \im-bi-tar/ *vt* (15c) 1: to excite bitter feelings in 2: to make bitter — **em-bit-ter-ment** \-mant/ *n*

em-blaze \im-blāz/ *vt* **em-blazed**; **em-blaz-ing** (15c) 1: to illuminate esp. by a blaze 2: to set ablaze

em-blaze *vt* **em-blazed**; **em-blaz-ing** [en- + *blaze* (to blazon)] (1593) 1: *archaic*: **EMBLAZON** 2: to adorn sumptuously (with gems and gold) luster rich *em-blazed* — John Milton

em-bla-zon \im-blā-zon/ *vt* **em-bla-zoned**; **em-bla-zon-ing** \-blā-zon-, -blā-z'n-ing/ (1589) 1: a: to inscribe or adorn with or as if with heraldic bearings or devices b: to inscribe (as heraldic bearings) on a surface 2: **CELEBRATE**, **EXTOL** (have his ~ deeds ~ed by a poet — Thomas Nash) — **em-bla-zon-er** \-blā-zon-, -z'n-ar/ *n* — **em-bla-zon-ment** \-blā-z'n-mant/ *n*

em-bla-zon-ry \-z'n-rē/ *n* (1667) 1: emblazoned figures: brilliant decoration 2: the act or art of emblazoning

em-blem \em-blām/ *n* [ME, fr. L *emblemata* inlaid work, fr. Gk *emblemata*, *emblemata*, fr. *em-ballein* to insert, fr. *en-* + *ballein* to throw — more at **DEVIL**] (15c) 1: a picture with a motto or set of verses intended as a moral lesson 2: an object or the figure of an object symbolizing and suggesting another object or an idea 3: a symbolic object used as a heraldic device b: a device, symbol, or figure adopted and used as an identifying mark

em-blem *vt* (1584) 1: **EMBLEMATIZE**

em-blem-at-ic \em-blā-ma-tik/ *also* **em-blem-at-ical** \-ti-kal/ *adj* (1645) 1: of, relating to, or constituting an emblem; **SYMBOLIC**, **REPRESENTATIVE** — **em-blem-at-ical-ly** \-ti-kal-ē/ *adv*

em-blem-a-tize \em-blā-ma-tiz/ *vt* **em-blazed**; **em-blaz-ing** (1615) 1: to represent by or as if by an emblem; **SYMBOLIZE**

em-blem-ments \em-blā-mant/ *n*, *pl* [ME *emblemment*, fr. MF *emblemment*, fr. *emblemata* to sow with grain, fr. *en-* + *blee* grain, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *blēd* fruit, growth, leaf — more at **BLADE**] (15c) 1: crops from annual cultivation legally belonging to the tenant

em-bod-ment \im-bā-di-mant/ *n* (1828) 1: one that embodies something (the ~ of all our hopes) 2: the act of embodying; the state of being embodied

em-body \im-bā-dē/ *vt* **em-bod-ded**; **em-body-ing** (ca. 1548) 1: to give a body to (a spirit); **INCARNATE** 2: a: to deprive of spirituality b: to make concrete and perceptible 3: to cause to become a body or part of a body; **INCORPORATE** 4: to represent in human or animal form 1: **PERSONIFY** (men who greatly embodied the idealism of American life —A. M. Schlesinger 1917) — **em-bod-er** *n*

em-bold-en \im-bol-dan/ *vt* (15c) 1: to instill with boldness or courage

em-bo-lic \em-bā-lik/ *adj* (1923) 1: surgical removal of an embolus

em-bo-lic \em-bā-lik, im-/ *adj* (1866) 1: of or relating to an embolus or embolism

em-bo-lism \em-bā-liz-m/ *n* [ME *embolisme*, fr. ML *embolismus*, fr. Gk *embolē* (fr. *emballein* to insert, intercalate) — more at **EMULEM**] (14c) 1: the insertion of one or more days in a calendar; **INTERCALATION** 2: a: the sudden obstruction of a blood vessel by an embolus b: **EMBOLUS** — **em-bo-lis-mic** \em-bā-liz-mik/ *adj*

em-bo-li-za-tion \em-bā-liz-a-shən/ *n* (1942) 1: the process or state in which a blood vessel or organ is obstructed by the lodgment of a mass (as an embolus)

em-bo-lus \em-bā-las/ *n*, *pl* -li \-li/ [NL, fr. Gk *embolus* wedge-shaped object, stopper, fr. *emballein*] (1859) 1: an abnormal particle (as an air bubble) circulating in the blood — compare **THROMBUS**

em-bon-point \im-bōn-pwā/ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *en bon point* in good condition] (1670) 1: plumpness of person; **STOUTNESS**

em-bon-zam \im-bō-zam/ *also* \-bō-/ *vt* (ca. 1590) 1: *archaic*: to take into or place in the bosom 2: to shelter closely; *fr. L* *embo* this bosom, and in the grove — Alexander Pope

em-boss \im-bās, -bōs/ *vt* [ME *embossen* to become exhausted from being hunted, ultim. fr. MF *bois* woods] (14c) *archaic*: to drive (an animal) to bay or to exhaustion

em-boss *vt* [ME *embossen*, fr. MF *embouer*, fr. *en-* + *boue* mud] (15c) 1: to raise the surface of into bosses; *esp*: to ornament with raised work 2: to raise in relief from a surface 3: **ADORN**, **EMBELLISH** — **em-boss-able** \-bā-sə-bəl, -bō-/ *adj* — **em-boss-er** \-sər/ *n* — **em-boss-ment** \-mant/ *n*

em-bou-chure \im-bū-shūr, im-bū-/ *n* [F, fr. *em-boucher* to fit into, fr. *en-* + *bouche* mouth — more at **DEBOUT**] (1766) 1: the position and use of the lips, tongue, and teeth in playing a wind instrument 2: the mouthpiece of a musical instrument

em-bour-gue-ment \em-būrh-zwaz-mant, im-/ *n*, *pl* *em-bour-gue-ment* [F, fr. *em-bourgeois* to make bourgeois, fr. *em-* + *bourgeois*] (15c) 1: a shift to bourgeois values and practices

em-bowed \im-bōd/ *adj* (15c) 1: bent like a bow; *archaic*

em-bow-el \im-bōi(-əl)/ *vt* **-eled** or **-elled**; **-el-ing** or **-el-ling** (15c) 1: **DISMEMBER** 2: *also*: **ENCLOSE**

em-bower \im-bōw-ər/ *vt* (1580) 1: to shelter or enclose in or as if in a bower (like a rose ~ed in its own green leaves —P. B. Shelley)

em-brace \im-brās/ *vb* **em-braced**; **em-bracing** [ME, fr. MF *embracer*, fr. OF *embracer*, fr. *en-* + *brace* two arms — more at **BRACE**] (14c) 1: a: to clasp in the arms; **HUG** b: **CHERISH**, **LOVE** 2: **EMBRACE**, **ENCLOSE** 3: a: to take up esp. readily or gladly (~ a cause) b: to avail oneself of; **WELCOME** (*Embraced the opportunity to study further*) 4: a: to take in (~ all acts that contribute to human welfare) b: to be equal or equivalent to (his assets embraced fifty ~ *vi*: to participate in an embrace *syn* **see** **ADAPT**, **INCLUDE**)

embrace-able \-brās-a-bəl/ *adj* — **em-brace-ment** \-brās-mant/ *n* — **em-brace-er** *n* — **em-brace-ingly** \-brās-ingly/ *adv*

embrace *n* (1592) 1: a close encircling with the arms and pressure in the bosom esp. as a sign of affection; **HUG** 2: **GRIP**, **EMBRACEMENT** (in the ~ of terror) 3: **ACCEPTANCE** (her ~ of new ideas)

em-brace-er \im-brās-ər/ *n* [AF, fr. MF *embraseor* instigator, fr. *em-braser* to set on fire, fr. *en-* + *brase*, *brase* live coals, fr. OF *braser* — more at **BRAISE**] (15c) 1: one guilty of embracery

em-brac-ery \im-brās-ərē/ *n*, *pl* -er-ies [ME, fr. AF *embraceor*] (15c) 1: an attempt to influence a jury corruptly

em-brac-ive \-brās-iv/ *adj* (1855) 1: disposed to embrace 2: **EMBRACIVE**, **COMPREHENSIVE**

em-bran-gle \im-bran-gl/ *vt* **-gled**; **-gling** \-g(-)ling/ [en- + *branch* (squabble)] (1664) 1: **EMBROIL** — **em-bran-gle-ment** \-gl-mant/ *n*

em-bras-ure \im-brā-zhər/ *n* [F, fr. obs. *embraser* to widen an opening] (1702) 1: an opening with sides flaring outward in a wall or parapet of a fortification usu. for allowing the firing of cannon 2: a recess of a door or window

em-brit-tle \im-bri-tl/ *vb* **em-brit-tled**; **em-brit-tling** \-bri-ting, -t'l-ing/ *vt* (1902) 1: to make brittle ~ *vi*: to become brittle — **em-brit-tle-ment** \-bri-tl-mant/ *n*

em-bro-ca-tion \em-brā-kā-shən/ *n* [ME *embrocacion*, fr. MF *embrocacion*, fr. ML *embrocation-*, *embrocatio*, fr. LL *embrocato* to rub with lotion, fr. Gk *embroche* lotion, fr. *en-* + *brechein* to wet] (15c) 1: **LINIMENT**

em-broid-er \im-brōi-dər/ *vb* **em-broid-ered**; **em-broid-er-ing** \-d(-)ring/ [ME *embroderen*, fr. MF *embroider*, fr. *en-* + *broder* to embroider, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *brod* point, *byrst* bristle] *vt* (14c) 1: a: to ornament with needlework b: to form with needlework 2: to elaborate on; *fr. L* *embellire* ~ *vi* 1: to make embroidery 2: to provide embellishment

em-broid-er-er \-brōi-dər-ər/ *n*

em-broid-ery \im-brōi-d(-)rē/ *n*, *pl* -der-ies (14c) 1: the art or process of forming decorative designs with hand or machine needlework b: a design or decoration formed by or as if by embroidery c: an object decorated with embroidery 2: elaboration by use of decorative and often fictitious detail 3: something pleasing or desirable but unimportant (considered the humanities mere educational ~)

em-broil \im-brōi(-)l/ *vt* [F *embrouiller*, fr. MF, fr. *en-* + *broillier* to broil] (1603) 1: to throw into disorder or confusion 2: to involve in conflict or difficulties — **em-broil-ment** \-mant/ *n*

em-brown \im-brāun/ *vt* (1667) 1: **DARKEN** 2: to cause to turn brown

em-brue *var* of **IMBUE**

embryo or **embryo-** *comb form* [LL, fr. Gk, fr. *embryon*]: embryo (*embryogeny*)

em-bryo \em-brō-/ *n*, *pl* **em-bry-os** [ML *embryon-*, *embryo*, fr. Gk *embryon*, fr. *en-* + *bryein* to swell; akin to Gk *bryon* catkin] (1548) 1: *archaic*: a vertebrate at any stage of development prior to birth or hatching b: an animal in the early stages of growth and differentiation that are characterized by cleavage, the laying down of fundamental tissues, and the formation of primitive organs and organ systems *esp*: the developing human individual from the time of implantation to the end of the eighth week after conception 2: the young sporophyte of a seed plant usu. comprising a rudimentary plant with plumule, cotyledons, and cotyledons 3: a: something as yet undeveloped b: a developing or undeveloped state of something (productions seen in ~ during their out-of-town tryout period —Henry Hewes)



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