

Webster's
Third
New International
Dictionary
OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
UNABRIDGED

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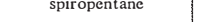
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New College Dictionary

THIRD EDITION



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Webster's II

Abbreviations
Biographical
Geographical
Foreign Words
Four-Year College
Two-Year College
A Concise Guide
Forms of Address

Charts and Tables

Alphabet
Books of the Bible
Calendar
Currency
Geologic Time
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Measurements
Periodic Table
Signs and Symbols

The blowhole of a cetacean. 2. *Geol.* A small vol-
canic vent or geyser. 3. An aperture through
which gas or liquid is expelled. **spi-rac-u-lar** (spi-rak'yo-lar,
-lar).

var. of SPIRA.

spiral (spiral) *adj.* [Lat. *spiralis* < Lat. *spira*, coil < Gk. *speira*,
a line of a point moving around a fixed center at a
constant or decreasing distance from the center. 2a.
A line of a point moving parallel to and about
constant or continuously varying distance: HE-
spiral like such a curve <spirals of smoke>. 3. The
h of an object rotating on its longitudinal axis.
accelerating increase or decrease <the wage price
or resembling a spiral. 2. Coiling in a constantly
LICAL. 3. Circling around to form a series of con-
an. —*vt.* **raled, ral-ing, rals or -ralled, ral-ing,**
a spiral form or course. 2. To rise or fall with
—*vt.* To cause to take a spiral form or course.
spiral-ly *adv.*
iding for notebooks and booklets in which a cy-
ssed through a row of punched holes at the edge

axis having a spiral structure.

[Lat. *spirans*, *spirant-*, pr.pt. of *spirare*, to
breathe. —*spiral-ly* *adv.* 1. A top part tapering upward: PIN-
re, as a steeple, that tapers to a point at the top.
g part, as a newly sprouting blade of grass. —*vt.*
es —*vt.* To furnish with a spire. —*vt.* To rise

Lat. *spira*, coil < Gk. *speira*.] 1. A spiral, esp. a
al: WHORL. 2. Zool. The area farthest from the
at the apex on a coiled gastropod shell.
(spi-rē'a) *n.* [Lat. *spira*, meadow-sweet < Gk.
oil.] A plant or shrub of the genus *Spirea*, in
reath, hardhack, and meadow-sweet, with small
r clusters.

spiral-rem (rēm') *n.* [G. *Spirem* < Gk. *speirēma*,
t. The tangle of filaments that appears at the be-
in meiosis or mitosis. 2. One of the filaments ap-
r mitosis.

spiral-ous (spi-rā'l-ōs) *adj.* [SPIR(E) + -OUS.] Having a spiral
arts.

1) *n.*, pl. **ril-la** (-ril'a) [NLat. *Spirillum*, genus
Spirillum, coil < Gk. *speira*.] A flagellated aerobic
Spirillum, with an elongated spiral form.

E < AN < Lat. *spiritus*, breath < *spirare*, to
l principle or animating force traditionally be-
iving beings. 2. The soul, considered as depart-
a person at death. 3. **Spirit**. The Holy Ghost. 4.

g. 5a. The part of a human associated with the
distinguished from the physical body. b. A per-

6. A person as characterized by a stated qual-
A specific inclination or tendency. 8. **spirits**. An
A particular emotional state characterized by

10. Strong loyalty or dedication. 11. The pre-
in occasion or period <the spirit of 1776>. 12.

nificance of something <Heed the spirit of the
. An alcoholic solution of an essential or volatile
An alcoholic beverage. —*vt.* **it-ed, it-ing, -its** 1.

ously or secretly <kidnapers who spirited the
rt courage, animation, or determination to: IN-

3. BRIO, DASH, ÉLAN, ESPRIT, LIVELINESS, PEP *n.*
y, emphatic, eager quality or manner.

spirit (spirit) *n.* 1. Full of or marked by animation, vigor, or
discussion>. 2. Having a specified mood or na-

spir-it-ed-ly *adv.* —**spir-it-ed-ness** *n.*

m) *n.* SPIRITUALISM 1a. **spir-it-ist** *n.* **spir-it-**

using alcohol or other liquid fuel.

spir-it-less *adj.* Devoid of energy or enthusiasm: LIST-
idu. —**spir-it-less-ness** *n.*

alcohol.

id) 1. Spirituous. 2. *Archaic*. Refined: pure.

spirit of turpentine *n.* TURPENTINE 1.

al) *adj.* 1. Of, relating to, consisting of, or hav-
it: not tangible or material. 2. Of, concerned
soul. 3. Of, from, or relating to God: DEIFIC.

a church or religion: SACRED. 5. Relating to
of spirits: SUPERNATURAL. —*n.* 1a. A religious

American origin. b. A work composed in imi-
tation of spirituals. Religious, spiritual, or eccle-

spir-it-u-al-ly *adv.* —**spir-it-u-al-ness** *n.*

chōō ə-liz'əm) *n.* 1a. The belief that the dead
e living, usu. through a medium. b. The prac-

tices or doctrines of those holding such a belief. 2. A philosophy,
doctrine, or religion emphasizing the spiritual rather than the ma-
terial. —**spir-it-u-al-ist** *n.* —**spir-it-u-al-is'tic** *adj.*

spir-it-u-al-ity (spi-rē'chōō ə-liz'əm) *n.*, pl. **ties** 1. The state, quality, or
fact of being spiritual. 2. The clergy. 3. *often* **spiritualities**. Something,
as property or revenue, belonging to the church or to a cleric.

spir-it-u-al-ize (spi-rē'chōō ə-liz'əm) *vt.* **-ized, -iz-ing, -izes** 1. To impart a
spiritual nature to. 2. To invest with or treat as having a spiritual
sense or meaning. —**spir-it-u-al-iz-a'tion** *n.* —**spir-it-u-al-iz'er** *n.*

spir-it-u-al-ty (spi-rē'chōō ə-liz'əm) *n.*, pl. **-ties** Spirituality.

spir-it-u-elle (spi-rē'chōō ə-liz'əm) *adj.* [Fr., spiritual.] Having or evidencing a refined mind.

spir-it-u-ous (spi-rē'chōō ə-liz'əm) *adj.* Resembling or containing alcohol.

spiro (spiro) *pref.* [Lat. *spirare*, to breathe.] Respiration <spiro-meter>

spiro-ro-chete (spi-rō'chē-tē) *n.* [NLat. *Spirochaeta*, gen-
us name: Lat. *spira*, coil & Lat. *chaeta*, bristle < Gk. *khaîtē*, long
hair.] Any of various slender, nonflagellated, twisted microorgan-
isms of the order Spirochaetales, many of which are pathogenic,
causing syphilis and other diseases. —**spiro-ro-chet'al** (kēt'al) *adj.*

spiro-ro-chet-to-sis (spi-rō'chē-tō'sis) *n.* [SPIROCHET(E) + -OSIS.] A dis-
ease, as syphilis, caused by a spirochete.

spiro-ro-graph (spi-rō'grāf) *n.* An instrument for registering the depth
and rapidity of respiratory movements. —**spiro-ro-graph'ic** *adj.*

spiro-ro-graph'ic-al-ly *adv.* —**spiro-ro-graph'ic-ally** *adv.*

spiro-ro-gy-ra (spi-rō'jī-rā) *n.* [NLat. *Spirogyra*, genus name: Lat. *spira*,
coil & Gk. *gyros*, ring.] A freshwater alga of the genus *Spirogyra*,
having chloroplasts in spirally twisted bands.

spiro-roid (spi-rō'id) *adj.* Like a spiral.

spiro-rom-e-ter (spi-rōm'fēr) *n.* An instrument for measuring the vol-
ume of air entering and leaving the lungs. —**spiro-rom-e'tric** (rē-
mē'trik) *adj.* —**spiro-rom-e'try** *n.*

spiro-ro-no-lac-tone (spō-rō'nō-lāk'tōn, spi-rōn'ō) *n.* [SPIR(O) + -NO-
(of unknown orig.) + LACTONE.] A steroid, C₂₄H₃₂O₄S, used medi-
cally as a diuretic.

spirt (spirt) *n.* & *v.* Chiefly Brit. *var. of* SPURT.

spir-u-la (spi-rē'yo-lā, spi-rē'yo) *n.*, pl. **-lae** (-lē') [NLat. *Spirula*, gen-
us name, dim. of Lat. *spira*, coil < Gk. *speira*.] A cephalopod mollusk
of the genus *Spirula*, with a spirally coiled, partitioned internal shell.

spiral-ly (spi-rē'yo-lā, spi-rē'yo) *n.* [NLat. *Spirulina*, genus name <
LLat. *spirula*, twisted cake. —see SPIRULA.] A cyanobacterium of
the genus *Spirulina*, valued as a food or nutritional supplement for
its high protein content.

spit (spit) *n.* [ME *spitten* < OE *spittan*.] 1. Expectorated saliva:
SPITTLE. 2. The act of expectorating. 3. Something, as the frothy se-
cretion of certain insects, that is felt to resemble saliva. 4. A brief,
scattered fall of rain or snow. —*v.* **spat** (spāt) or **spit**, **spit-ting**, **spits**

—*vt.* 1. To eject from the mouth. 2. To eject as if by spitting <spat
out an order>. —*vi.* 1. To expectorate. 2. To express contempt or ani-
mosity by or as if by spitting. 3. To make a hissing or sputtering
noise. 4. To rain or snow in light, scattered drops or flakes.

spit (spit) *n.* [ME < OE *spitu*.] 1. A slender, pointed rod on which
meat is skewered for broiling. 2. A narrow point of land extending
into a body of water. —*vt.* **spit-ted, spit-ting, spits** To skewer on or as
if on a spit.

spit-al (spi'tl) *n.* [ME *spitel* < Med. Lat. *hospitale*. see HOSPITAL.]
A hospital, esp. one for contagious diseases.

spit-ball (spi'tbōl) *n.* 1. Paper chewed and shaped into a lump for use
as a projectile. 2. *Baseball*. An illegal pitch in which the ball is moist-
ened on one side with spit.

spit curl *n.* [From the use of saliva to fix the curl.] A spiral curl pressed
flat against the cheek or forehead.

spite (spit) *n.* [ME, outrage, insult, ill will < OFr. *despite*. —see DE
SPITE.] 1. Malicious ill will prompting an urge to hurt or humiliate.
2. An instance of malicious feeling. —*vt.* **spit-ed, spit-ing, spites** 1a.
To show spite toward. b. To vent spite upon. 2a. To fill with spite. b. To
annoy: irritate. —*in* **spite of**. Regardless of.

spite-ful (spi'tfəl) *adj.* Filled with, caused by, or displaying spite: MA-
LICIOUS. —**spite-ful-ly** *adv.* —**spite-ful-ness** *n.*

spit-fire (spi'tfir) *n.* A quick tempered, excitable person.

spit-ter (spi'tər) *n.* 1. One that spits. 2. *Baseball*. SPITBALL 2. 3. A young
deer with unbranched horns: PRICKET.

spitting image *n.* [Alteration of *spit and image* < *spit*, an exact like-
ness.] A perfect likeness or counterpart.

spit-tle (spi'tl) *n.* [ME *spytte*, alteration of *spat* < OE *spatt*.] 1. SPIT¹
1. 2. The frothy liquid secreted by spittlebugs.

spit-tle-bug (spi'tl'bug) *n.* An insect of the family Cercopidae, the
nymphs of which form frothy masses of liquid on plant stems.

spit-toon (spi'tōn) *n.* A bowl shaped, usu. metal vessel into which one may spit.

spitz (spits) *n.* [G. < *spitz*, pointed.] A dog orig. bred in Germany, with
a long, thick, usu. white coat and a tail curled over the back.

spiv (spiv) *n.* [Dial. *spiff*, dandy.] Chiefly Brit. 1. One who is usu. un-
employed and who lives by one's wits. 2. A shirker of work or re-
sponsibility: SLACKER.

ā pat ā pay ā care ā father ā car ē pet ē be ī pit ī bite īr pier ō pot ō toe ō paw ōr core
ōi boy ou out ōō took ōōr lure ōō boot th thin th this ũ cut ũr urge zh vision ā about, item

splanch-nic (splāngk'nīk) *adj.* [Gk. *splanchnikos*, of the bowels <
splanchna, inward parts.] Of or relating to the viscera: VISCERAL <a
splanchnic nerve>

splash (splāsh) *v.* **splashed, splash-ing, splash-es** [Alteration of *PLASH*.]
—*vt.* 1. To scatter or dash (a liquid) about in flying masses. 2a. To
dash liquid on. b. To wet or soil by splashing. 3. To cause to splash.

vi. 1a. To cause a liquid to fly in scattered masses. b. To fall into
or move through liquid with this effect. 2. To move, spill, or fly
about in scattered masses. **splash down**. To land on water <The
spacecraft splashed down in the Pacific>. —*n.* 1. The act or sound
of splashing. 2. A flying mass of liquid. 3. A marking produced by
or as if by scattered liquid <great splash of light>. 4. A great though
often short-lived impression: STIR. **splash'er** *n.*

splash-board (splāsh'bōrd) *n.* 1. A structure that protects a vehicle
from splashes of mud. 2. A screen on a boat to keep water from
splashing on the deck. 3. A board for closing a spillway or sluice.

splash-down (splāsh'daun) *n.* The landing of a spacecraft or missile
on water.

splash-y (splāsh'ē) *adj.* **-i-er, -iest** 1. Making or apt to make splashes.
2. Covered with splashes of color. 3. Ostentatious: showy.

—**splash'y-ly** *adv.* —**splash'y-ness** *n.*

splat (splāt) *n.* [Orig. unknown.] A slat of wood, as one in the middle
of a chair back.

splat (splāt) *n.* [Imit.] A slapping noise. —**splat** *adv.*

splat-ter (splāt'tər) *v.* **-tered, -ter-ing, -ters** [Blend of *SPLASH* and *SPAT-
TER*.] —*vt.* To spatter (something), esp. to soil with splashes of liq-
uid. —*vi.* To spatter, esp. to move or fall so as to cause heavy
splashes. **splat'ter** *n.*

splay (splā) *adj.* [ME *splayen*, to spread out, short for *displayen*
see DISPLAY.] 1. Turned or spread out. 2. Clumsy: awkward. —*n.*

1. Expansion: spread. 2. An oblique slope given to the sides of an
opening in a wall so that the opening is wider at one face than at
the other. —*v.* **splayed, splay-ing, splays** —*vt.* 1. To spread (e.g., the
limbs) out or apart, esp. in a clumsy way. 2. To make slanting or
sloping: BEVEL. 3. To dislocate (a bone). Used of an animal. *vi.*

1. To be spread out or apart. 2. To slope or slant.

splay-foot (splā'fōot) *n.* 1. A physical deformity marked by abnor-
mally flat and turned out feet. 2. A foot abnormally flat and turned-
out: FLATFOOT. —**splay'foot-ed** *adj.*

spleen (splēn) *n.* [ME *splene* < OFr. *esplen* < Lat. *splen* < Gk. *splēn*.]
1a. A visceral organ in humans composed of a white pulp of lym-
phatic nodules and tissue and a red pulp of venous tissue, function-
ing as a blood filter and to store blood. b. A homologous organ or
tissue in other vertebrates. 2. *Obs.* a. The seat of emotions or pas-
sions. b. A whim: caprice. 3. *Archaic*. Melancholy. 4. Ill temper.

—**spleen'y** *adj.*

spleen-wort (splēn'wōrt, wōrt') *n.* [So called because it was thought
to cure spleen disorders.] Any of various ferns of the genus *Asple-
nium*, with feathery, often evergreen fronds.

splen *pref.* *var. of* SPLENO-

splen-dent (splēn'dənt) *adj.* [ME < Lat. *splendens*, pr.pt. of
splendēre, to shine.] 1. Shining: brilliant <splendently luster>. 2. Con-
spicuously illustrious <the splendid genius of Einstein>.

splen-did (splēn'did) *adj.* [Fr. *splendide* < Lat. *splendidus* < *splendēre*,
to shine.] 1. Brilliant with color or light: RADIANT. 2. Imposing: mag-
nificent. 3. Glorious: illustrious. 4. Admirable for boldness or pu-
rity: TRANSCENDENT. 5. Exceptionally good or satisfying <a splendid
feast>. —**splen-did-ly** *adv.* —**splen-did-ness** *n.*

splen-dif-er-ous (splēn'dif'ərəs) *adj.* [ME < Med. Lat. *splendiferus*:
Lat. *splendor*, splendor & *ferre*, to bear.] Splendid.

splen-dor (splēn'dər) *n.* [ME *splendore* < OFr. *splendeur* < Lat. *splen-
dor* < *splendēre*, to shine.] 1. Great luster or light: BRILLIANCE. 2a.
Magnificent display: GRANDEUR. b. Something magnificent. 3. Glory:
illustriousness. —**splen'dor-ous, splen'drous** (splēn'drəs) *adj.*

splen-dour (splēn'dər) *n.* Chiefly Brit. *var. of* SPLENDOR.

sple-nec-to-my (splī-nēk'tō-mē) *n.*, pl. **mies** Surgical removal of the
spleen.

sple-net-ic (splī-nēt'ik) *also* **sple-net-i-cal** (ī-kəl) *adj.* [LLat. *spleneticus*
< Lat. *splen*, spleen < Gk.]. 1. Of or relating to the spleen. 2. Ill-
humored and irritable. —*n.* An ill humored person. **sple-net'i-
cal-ly** *adv.*

splen-ic (splēn'ik) *adj.* Of, in, near, or relating to the spleen.

sple-ni-tis (splī-nī'tis) *n.* Inflammation of the spleen.

sple-ni-us (splē-nē'əs) *n.*, pl. **-ni-i** (-nē-i') [NLat. < Lat. *splenius*, patch,
plaster < Gk. *splēnion* < *splēn*, spleen.] Either of two muscles of the
back of the neck, extending from the vertebral column to the skull,
that rotate and extend the head and neck. **sple-ni-al** *adj.*

spleno or **splen** *pref.* [Gk. *splēno* < *splēn*, spleen.] Spleen <*splēni-
tis*>

sple-no-meg-a-ly (splē-nō-mēg'ə-lē, splēn'ō) *n.* Abnormal enlarge-
ment of the spleen.

splice (splis) *vt.* **spliced, splic-ing, splic-es** [MDu. *splossen*.] 1a. To join
(e.g., film) at the ends. b. To join (ropes) by intertwining strands. 2.
To join (pieces of wood) by overlapping and binding at the ends. 3.
Informal. To unite in marriage. —*n.* 1. A joint made by splicing. 2.

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ing of a fluorescent screen and a magnifying lens system for visual detection of alpha rays [Greek *spintharis* "spark"]

spin the bottle *n* : a kissing game in which a bottle is spun to point to the one to be kissed

spine *n* : a tiny spine **spi-nu-lose** \-nyə-,lōs\ *adj*

spiny \-spi-nē\ *adj* **spin-i-er**; **-est** 1 : full of difficulties, obstacles, or annoyances 2 : having spines, prickles, or thorns 3 : slender and pointed like a spine **spin-i-ness** *n*

spiny anteater *n* : ECHIDNA

spiny-head-ed worm \-spi-nē ,hed əd-\ *n* : any of a small phylum (Acanthocephala) of unsegmented parasitic worms with a proboscis bearing hooks used for attachment to the intestinal wall of the host

spiny lobster *n* : any of several edible crustaceans distinguished from the related true lobsters by the simple unenlarged first pair of legs and by the spiny carapace

spira-cle \-spir-i kəl, 'spi-ri\ *n* : a breathing orifice: as a : BLOWHOLE 1 b : any of the external openings in the body of an arthropod and especially of an insect through which air enters a trachea [Latin *spiraculum*, from *spirare* "to breathe"]

spiral \-spi-rəl\ *adj* 1 : winding around a center or pole and gradually receding from or approaching it 2 : HELICAL (the spiral form of the thread of a screw) 3 : of, relating to, or resembling a spiral (a spiral staircase) [Medieval Latin *spiralis*, from Latin *spira* "coil"] **spiral-ly** \-rə lē\ *adv*

spiral *n* 1 a : a curve in a plane that winds around a point while getting closer to or farther away from it b : a three-dimensional curve (as a helix) that winds around an axis 2 : a single turn or coil in a spiral object 3 a : something having a spiral form b : SPIRAL GALAXY 4 : a continuously spreading and accelerating increase or decrease (wage spirals)

spiral *vb* -raled or -railed; -ral-ing or -ral-ling 1 : to move in a spiral course 2 : to form into a spiral

spiral galaxy *n* : a galaxy with a central nucleus from which extend curved arms

spirant \-spi-rənt\ *n* : a consonant (as /f/, /s/, /ʃh/) uttered with friction of the breath against some part of the oral passage : FRICATIVE [Latin *spirans*, present participle of *spirare* "to breathe"] **spirant** *adj*

spire \-spīr\ *n* 1 : a slender tapering blade or stalk (as of grass) 2 : a sharp pointed tip (as of a tree or antler) 3 a : a pointed roof especially of a tower b : STEEPLE [Old English *spīr*]

spire *vi* : to shoot up like a spire

spire *n* : the upper part of a spiral mollusk shell [Latin *spira* "coil," from Greek *speira*]

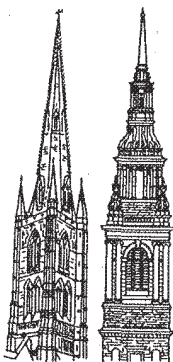
spire *vi* : to rise in or as if in a spiral **spi-rea** or **spi-raea** \-spi-'rē-ə\ *n* : any of a genus of shrubs related to the roses and having small usually white or pink flowers in dense clusters [Latin, a kind of plant, from Greek *speiraia*]

spired \-spīrd\ *adj* : having a spire (a spired church)

spiral-lum \-spi-'ril-əm\ *n*, pl **-ril-la** \-ril-ə\ : any of a genus of long curved bacteria having tufts of flagella at both ends; also : any spiral filamentous bacterium (as a spirochete) [New Latin, from Latin *spira* "coil"]

spirit \-spir-ət\ *n* 1 : a life giving force; *esp* : a force within a person held to endow the body with life, energy, and power : SOUL 2 : a supernatural being or essence: as a *cap* : HOLY SPIRIT b : an often evil being that is bodiless but can become visible : GHOST 2 c : a supernatural being that enters into and controls a person 3 : MOOD, DISPOSITION (in good spirits) 4 : a lively or brisk quality (answered with spirit) 5 : real meaning or intention (the spirit of the law) 6 : the feeling, quality, or disposition characterizing something (said in a spirit of fun) 7 : a person having a character or disposition of a specified nature (a free spirit) 8 a : a distilled alcoholic liquor usually used in plural b : an alcoholic solution of a volatile substance (spirit of camphor) often used in plural [Latin *spiritus*, literally, "breath"] **synonyms** see SOUL

spirit *vt* 1 : ANIMATE 2, ENCOURAGE 2 : to carry off or convey secretly or mysteriously



1spire 3a

spir-it-ed \-spir-ət-əd\ *adj* : full of spirit, courage, or energy (a spirited conversation) **spir-it-ed-ly** *adv* **spir-it-ed-ness** *n*

spirit gum *n* : a solution (as of gum arabic in ether) used especially for attaching false hair to the skin

spir-it-ism \-spir-ət ,iz-əm\ *n* : SPIRITUALISM 2a **spir-it-ist** \-ət-əst\ *n* **spir-it-is-tic** \-spir-ət 'is-tik\ *adj*

spir-it-less \-spir-ət ləs\ *adj* : lacking animation, cheer, or courage **spir-it-less-ly** *adv* **spir-it-less-ness** *n*

spirit level *n* : a level using the position of a bubble in a small tube of liquid (as alcohol) as an indicator

spirits of turpentine : TURPENTINE 2a

spir-i-tu-al \-spir-ich-wel, -ə-wəl, ich əl\ *adj* 1 : of, relating to, or consisting of spirit : not bodily or material 2 a : of or relating to sacred matters (spiritual songs) b : ecclesiastical rather than lay or temporal (spiritual authority) 3 : related or joined in spirit : having a spiritual rather than physical relationship 4 a : of or relating to supernatural beings b : of, relating to, or involving spiritualism : SPIRITUALISTIC **spir-i-tu-al-ly** \-ə\ *adv* **spir-i-tu-al-ness** *n*

spiritual *n* : a religious song usually of a deeply emotional character that was developed especially among blacks in the south ern U.S.

spir-i-tu-al-ism \-spir-ich-wə ,liz-əm, -ə-wə-, ich ə ,liz-\ *n* 1 : the belief that spirit is the principal aspect of reality 2 a : a belief that the spirits of the dead communicate with the living b *cap* : a movement comprising religious organizations emphasizing spiritualism **spir-i-tu-al-ist** \ləst\ *n*, often *cap*

spir-i-tu-al-is-tic \-spir-ich wə-'lis-tik, -ə-wə-, ich ə-'lis\ *adj* **spir-i-tu-al-i-ty** \-spir-ich-ə-wəl-ət ē\ *n* 1 : concern with religious rather than material values 2 : the quality or state of being spiritual

spir-i-tu-al-ize \-spir-ich wə-'liz, -ə-wə-, -ich ə ,liz\ *vt* 1 : to make spiritual especially by freeing from worldly influences 2 : to give a spiritual meaning to or understand in a spiritual sense **spir-i-tu-al-iza-tion** \-spir-ich wə-'lə-zā-shən, -ə-wə-, -ich ə-lə-\ *n*

spir-i-tu-ous \-spir-ich-wəs, -ə-wəs, -ich-əs, 'spir-ət-əs\ *adj* : containing or being distilled alcohol (spirituous liquors) **spir-i-tu-os-i-ty** \-spir-ich-ə 'wäs-ət-ē\ *n*

spi-ro-chete also **spi-ro-chaete** \-spi-rə ,kēt\ *n* : any of an order (Spirochaetales) of slender spirally undulating bacteria including those causing syphilis and Lyme disease [derived from Latin *spira* "coil" (from Greek *speira*) + Greek *chaîtē* "long hair"] **spi-ro-che-tal** \-spi-rə-'kēt\ *adj*

spi-ro-gy-ra \-spi-rə-'ji-rə\ *n* : any of a genus of freshwater green algae with spiral chloroplasts [New Latin, from Greek *speira* "coil" + *gyros* "ring, circle"]

spi-rom-e-ter \-spi-'rām-ət-ər\ *n* : an instrument for measuring the air entering and leaving the lungs [Latin *spirare* "to breathe"] **spi-ro-met-ric** \-spi-rə-'me-trik\ *adj* **spi-rom-e-try** \-spi-'rām-ə-trē\ *n*

spiry \-spīr-ē\ *adj* : resembling a spire; *esp* : tall, slender, and tapering (spiry trees)

spit \-spīt\ *n* 1 : a slender pointed rod for holding meat over a fire 2 : a small point of land especially of sand or gravel running into a body of water [Old English *spitu*]

spit *vt* **spit-ted**; **spit-ting** : to put on or as if on a spit

spit *vb* **spit** or **spat** \-spāt\; **spit-ting** 1 a : to eject (as saliva) from the mouth : EXPECTORATE b : to express by or as if by spitting (spitting a contemptuous reply) c : to make a spitting sound (the cat spat angrily) 2 a : to give off usually briskly or vigorously : EMIT (the fire spat sparks) b : to rain or snow in flurries [Old English *spittan*] **spit-ter** *n*

spit *n* 1 a : SALIVA b : the act of spitting 2 : a frothy secretion produced by spittlebugs 3 : perfect likeness (the spit and image of his father)

spit and polish *n* : extreme attention to cleanliness, orderliness, smartness of appearance, and ceremony often at the expense of operational efficiency [from the practice of polishing objects such as shoes by moistening them and then rubbing them with a cloth]

spit-ball \-spīt ,bōl\ *n* 1 : paper chewed and rolled into a ball to

\ə\ abut	\aù\ out	\ì\ tip	\ó\ saw	\ù\ foot
\ər\ further	\ch\ chin	\ì\ life	\óì\ coin	\y\ yet
\a\ mat	\el\ pet	\j\ job	\th\ this	\yü\ few
\ā\ take	\è\ easy	\ng\ sing	\th\ thin	\yü\ cure
\ä\ cot, cart	\g\ go	\ò\ bone	\ü\ food	\zh\ vision

be used as a missile 2: a baseball pitch delivered after the ball has been moistened with saliva or sweat
spit curl *n*: a small spiral curl that is usually pressed flat against the forehead, temple, or cheek

spite *\ˈspɪt* *n*: petty ill will or hatred with a desire to irritate, annoy, or thwart [Middle English, short for *despite*] **In spite of**: in defiance or contempt of: without being prevented by < succeeded in spite of opposition >

spite *v* 1: to treat maliciously (as by shaming or thwarting) 2: ANNOY, OFFEND (did it to spite me)

spite-ful *\ˈspɪt-fəl* *adj*: filled with or showing spite: MALICIOUS — **spite-ful-ly** *\-fə-lē* *adv* — **spite-ful-ness** *n*

spit-fire *\ˈspɪt-fɪr* *n*: a quick-tempered or highly emotional person

spit-ting image *\ˈspɪt-ɪŋ-* *n*: perfect likeness

spit-tle *\ˈspɪt-l* *n* 1: SALIVA 2: SPIT 2 [Old English *spætl*]

spit-tle-bug *\-bæg* *n*: any of numerous leaping insects that are related to the cicadas and aphids and have larvae which produce a frothy secretion

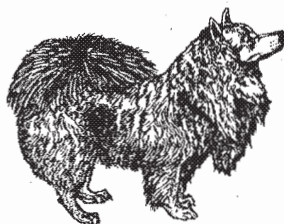
spittle insect *n*: SPITTLEBUG

spit-toon *\ˈspɪ-tūn* *n*: a receptacle for spit — called also *cuspidor* [*ˈspɪt + -oon* (as in *balloon*)]

spit up *vb*: REGURGITATE, VOMIT (the baby spit up twice)

spit-up *n*

spitz *\ˈspɪts* *n*: a member of any of several breeds of stocky heavy-coated dogs of northern origin with erect ears and a heavily furred tail tightly curled over the back [German, from *spitz* "pointed"]



spitz

splanchnic *\ˈsplæŋk-nɪk* *adj*: of or relating to the internal organs: VISCERAL [Greek *splanchnikos*, from *splanchna* "viscera"]

splash *\ˈsplæʃ* *vb* 1 *a*: to strike or move through a liquid or semifluid substance and cause it to spatter < splash water > < splash through mud > *b*: to wet or soil by dashing a liquid on: SPATTER < splashed by a passing car >; also: to cause to soil or stain something by splashing < splashed ink on the paper > 2: to make a splashing sound (as in falling or moving) < a brook splashing over rocks > 3 *a*: to spread or scatter like a splashed liquid < sunbeams splashed through the curtain > *b*: to display prominently < a scandal splashed all over the newspaper > [alteration of *plash*]

splash-er *n*
2 splash *n* 1: splashed material; also: a spot or daub from or as if from splashed liquid 2: the sound or action of splashing 3: a vivid impression created especially by showy activity or appearance; also: a showy display

splash-down *\ˈsplæʃ-daʊn* *n*: the controlled landing of a spacecraft in the ocean **splash down** *\ˈsplæʃ-daʊn*, *ˈsplæʃ* *vi*

splash guard *n*: a flap suspended behind a rear wheel to prevent tire splash from muddying windshields of following vehicles

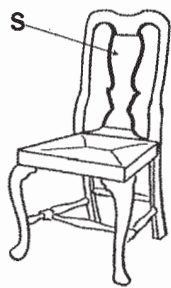
splashy *\ˈsplæʃ-ē* *adj* **splash-i-er**; **-est** 1: moving or being moved with a splash or splashing sound 2: making a splash < a splashy movie > < a splashy debut > 3: consisting of, being, or covered with bright colored splashes < a splashy shirt > < a splashy poster > — **splash-i-ly** *\-lē* *adv* **splash-i-ness** *\-nəs* *n*

splat *\ˈsplæt* *n*: a single flat thin usually vertical member of a back of a chair [obsolete *splat* "to spread flat," from Middle English *splatten*]

2 splat *n*: a splattering or splashing sound [imitative]

splat-ter *\ˈsplæt-ər* *vb* 1: SPATTER 1 2: to scatter or fall in or as if in drops [probably blend of *splash* and *spatter*]

splatter *n*
1 splay *\ˈsplā* *vb* 1: to spread out or apart 2: SLOPE, SLANT [Middle English *splayen*, short for *displayen* "to display"]



S¹ splat

2 splay *n* 1: a slope or bevel especially of the sides of a door or window 2: degree of outward slope

3 splay *adj* 1: turned outward < splay knees > 2: AWKWARD 2a, UNGAINLY

splay-foot *\ˈsplā-fūt,-ˈfüt* *n*: a foot abnormally flattened and spread out: FLATFOOT **splay-foot-ed** *\-fūt-əd* *adj*

spleen *\ˈsplēn* *n* 1: a ductless organ near the stomach or in testine of most vertebrates that is supplied with many blood vessels and is concerned with final destruction of blood cells, filtration and storage of blood, and production of lymphocytes 2: feelings of anger or ill will often not expressed [Latin *splen*, from Greek *splēn*]

spleen-ful *\-fəl* *adj*: SPLENETIC

spleen-wort *\-,wɔrt,-ˈwɔrt* *n*: any of a genus of evergreen ferns having linear or oblong clusters of spores [from the belief in its power to cure disorders of the spleen]

spleeny *\ˈsplē-nē* *adj*: full of or displaying spleen

splen-dent *\ˈsplen-dənt* *adj* 1: SHINING 1, LUSTROUS 2: ILLUSTRIOUS, BRILLIANT [Late Latin *splendens*, from Latin *splendēre* "to shine"]

splen-did *\ˈsplen-dəd* *adj* 1: possessing or displaying splendor: as *a*: brilliantly shining: RADIANT *b*: SHOWY 1, MAGNIFICENT 2: ILLUSTRIOUS, GRAND 3: PRAISEWORTHY, EXCELLENT [Latin *splendidus*, from *splendēre* "to shine"]

splen-did-ly *adv* — **splen-did-ness** *n*

synonyms SPLENDID, GLORIOUS, GORGEOUS mean extraordinarily impressive. SPLENDID implies outshining the usual in brilliance or excellence (the wedding was a splendid occasion). GLORIOUS suggests beauty and distinction heightened by radiance (a glorious sunset). GORGEOUS implies a rich splendor especially in display of color (a gorgeous red dress).

splen-dif-er-ous *\ˈsplen-dɪf-ərəs,-ə-rəs* *adj* 1: SPLENDID 1, MAGNIFICENT 2: deceptively splendid [splendor + *i* + *-ferous*]

splen-dif-er-ous-ly *adv* — **splen-dif-er-ous-ness** *n*

splen-dor *\ˈsplen-dər* *n* 1 *a*: great brightness or luster: BRILLIANCY (the splendor of the sun) *b*: MAGNIFICENCE, POMP (an affair of great splendor) 2: something splendid (the splendors of the past) [Latin *splendor*, from *splendēre* "to shine"] — **splen-dor-ous** also **splen-drous** *\-də-rəs, drəs* *adj*

sple-net-ic *\ˈspli-net-ɪk* *adj*: marked by bad temper, hatred, or spite [Late Latin *spleneticus*, from Latin *splen* "spleen"] — **sple-net-i-cal-ly** *\spli-net-i-kəl-, -klē* *adv*

splen-ic *\ˈsplen-ɪk* *adj*: of, relating to, or located in the spleen

1 splice *\ˈsplɪs* *vt* 1 *a*: to unite (as two ropes) by weaving the strands together *b*: to unite (as rails or timbers) by lapping the ends together and making them fast 2: to unite, link, or insert as if by splicing [obsolete Dutch *splassen*] — **splic-er** *n*

2 splice *n*: a joining or joint made by splicing

spline *\ˈsplɪn* *n* 1: a thin wood or metal strip used in building construction 2: a key that is fixed to one of two connected mechanical parts and fits into a keyway in the other; also: a keyway for such a key [origin unknown]

1 splint *\ˈsplɪnt* *n* 1 *a*: a thin strip of wood suitable for interweaving (as into baskets) *b*: SPLINTER 1 *c*: material or a device used to protect and immobilize a body part (as a broken arm) 2: a bony enlargement on the cannon bone of a horse [Low German *splinte*, *splente*]

2 splint *vt*: to support and immobilize with or as if with a splint or splints

splint bone *n*: one of the slender rudimentary bones on each side of the cannon bone in the limb of a horse

1 splin-ter *\ˈsplɪnt-ər* *n* 1 *a*: a thin piece split or torn off lengthwise: SLIVER *b*: a small jagged particle 2: a group or faction broken away from a parent body [early Dutch] — **splinter** *adj* **splin-tery** *\ˈsplɪnt-ə-rē* *adj*

2 splinter *vb* 1: to split into long thin pieces 2: to split into fragments, parts, or factions

1 split *\ˈsplɪt* *vb* **split**; **split-ting** 1 *a*: to divide lengthwise usually along a grain or seam or by layers: CLEAVE (wood that splits easily) < split slate into shingles > *b*: to divide or separate as if by forcing apart (the river split the town) 2 *a*: to tear or break apart: BURST (the pants split at the seams) *b*: to subject (an atom or atomic nucleus) to artificial disintegration es-



splice

pecially by fission: SHATTI parts or portions (the winning parties, or gro candidates of compound) in acids; also: to oxide) *e*: to shares to exist face value 4: TELL usually split hairs: to to laugh hear promise

2 split *n* 1: a break made by or made thin splitting *d*: a are left standing between them stock split; elements 3: the into the air with site directions

3 split *adj*: divided (lies); also: pre split decision sion of opinion split end *n* 1: yards to the si come frayed (a split infinitive) between the to an split-level *\ˈspli* floor level of r levels of two s houses) — **split** *pea* *n*: a c split personall which the per parts each of v double charact

split rail *n*: a fe split second a decision) 2: c split second n pened in a split split shift *n*: a working period split ticket *n*: a of more than e

split-ting *\ˈsplɪt* **splotch** *\ˈsplɒtʃ* **splotch** *\ˈsplɒtʃ* **blotch** — **splo**

1 splurge *\ˈsplɜrj* [perhaps blend

2 splurge *vb* 1: or spend lavishl

1 splut-ter *\ˈsplʌt-ɪŋ* 2: a splas sputter] — **spl**

2 splutter *vb* 1: ter hastily and

1 spoil *\ˈspɔɪl* *n*: from a victim in effort or skill: chase) 2: ear damaged or fla from *espuller*, 'spoiled

2 spoil *vb* **spollec** 1: PLUNDER, I spoiled by floo quarrel spoiled value, or usefu meat spoiled pampering 4: [Medieval Fren