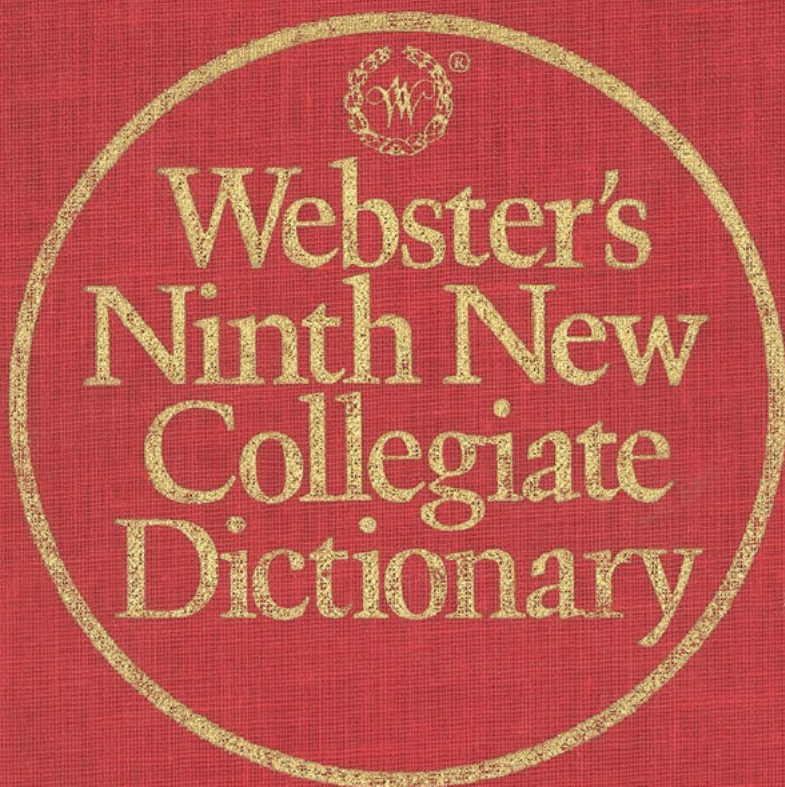




A Merriam-Webster®

Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary

A Merriam-Webster®

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- circle** *vb* **circled**; **circ-ling** \-k(ə-)lɪŋ\ *vt* (14c) **1**: to enclose in or as if in a circle **2**: to move or revolve around ~ *vi* **1 a**: to move in or as if in a circle **b**: **CIRCULATE** **2**: to describe or extend in a circle — **circ-ler** \-k(ə-)lər\ *n*
- circle graph** *n* (1928): a circular chart cut by radii into segments illustrating relative magnitudes or frequencies — called also *pie chart*
- circlet** \sər-klət\ *n* (15c): a little circle; *esp*: a circular ornament
- circuit** \sər-kət\ *n*, *often attrib* [ME, fr. MF *circuite*, fr. L *circuitus*, fr. pp. of *circumire*, *circuire* to go around, fr. *circum-* + *ire* to go — more at **ISSUE**] (14c) **1 a**: a usu. circular line encompassing an area **b**: the space enclosed within such a line **2 a**: a course around a periphery **b**: a circuitous or indirect route **3 a**: a regular tour (as by a traveling judge or preacher) around an assigned district or territory **b**: the route traveled **c**: a group of church congregations ministered to by one pastor **4 a**: the complete path of an electric current including usu. the source of electric energy **b**: an assemblage of electronic elements (as in a computer) **5 a**: an association of similar groups (LEAGUE **b**: a number or series of public outlets (as theaters, radio shows, or arenas) offering the same kind of presentation **c**: a number of similar social gatherings (cocktail ~) — **circ-uit-al** \-kət-əl\ *adj*
- circuit vt** (15c): to make a circuit about ~ *vi*: to make a circuit
- circuit breaker** *n* (1872): a switch that automatically interrupts an electric circuit under an infrequent abnormal condition
- circuit court** *n* (1708): a court that sits at two or more places within one judicial district
- circuit judge** *n* (1801): a judge who holds a circuit court
- circu-itous** \sər-kyū-ət-əs\ *adj* (1664) **1**: not being forthright or direct in language or action **2**: having a circular or winding course (a ~ route) — **circ-uitous-ly** *adv* — **circ-uitous-ness** *n*
- circuit rider** *n* (1837): a clergyman assigned to a circuit *esp*. in a rural area
- circ-uit-ry** \sər-kə-trē\ *n*, *pl -ries* (1946) **1**: the detailed plan of an electric circuit **2**: the components of an electric circuit
- circ-uity** \sər-kyū-ət-ē\ *n*, *pl -ities* [irreg. fr. *circuit*] (1626): lack of straightforwardness; *INDIRECTION* (mired so deeply in its own complicated ~ of words — C. O. Gregory)
- circ-ular** \sər-kyə-lər\ *adj* [ME *circuler*, fr. MF, fr. LL *circularis*, fr. L *circulus* circle] (15c) **1 a**: having the form of a circle: **ROUND** **b**: moving in or describing a circle or spiral **2 a**: of or relating to a circle or its mathematical properties (a ~ arc) **b**: having a circular base or bases (a ~ cylinder) **3**: **CIRCUITOUS**, **INDIRECT** (a ~ explanation) **4**: being or involving reasoning that uses in the argument or proof a conclusion to be proved or one of its unproved consequences **5**: marked by or moving in a cycle **6**: intended for circulation — **circ-ular-ity** \sər-kyə-lar-ət-ē\ *n* — **circ-ular-ly** \sər-kyə-lər-lē\ *adv* — **circ-ular-ness** *n*
- circular** *n* (1789): a paper (as a leaflet) intended for wide distribution
- circular dichroism** *n* (ca. 1961) **1**: the property (as of an optically active medium) of unequal absorption of right and left plane-polarized light so that the emergent light is elliptically polarized **2**: a spectroscopic technique that makes use of circular dichroism
- circular file** *n* (1967): **WASTEBASKET**
- circular function** *n* (1884): **TRIGONOMETRIC FUNCTION**
- circ-ular-ize** \sər-kyə-lə-rīz\ *vt -ized; -izing* (1848) **1 a**: to send circulars to **b**: to poll by questionnaire **2**: **PUBLICIZE** — **circ-ular-iza-tion** \sər-kyə-lə-rīz-ə-shən\ *n*
- circular saw** *n* (1817): a power saw with a circular cutting blade; *also*: the blade itself
- circ-ulate** \sər-kyə-lāt\ *vb -lat-ed; -lat-ing* [L *circulatus*, pp. of *circulare*, fr. *circulus*] *vt* (1650) **1**: to move in a circle, circuit, or orbit; *esp*: to follow a course that returns to the starting point (blood ~s through the body) **2**: to pass from person to person or place to place: *as* **a**: to flow without obstruction **b**: to become well-known or widespread (rumors ~ulated through the town) **c**: to go from group to group at a social gathering **d**: to come into the hands of readers; *specif*: to become sold or distributed ~ *vi*: to cause to circulate — **circ-ulat-able** \-lāt-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **circ-ula-tive** \-lāt-iv\ *adj* — **circ-ula-tor** \-lāt-ər\ *n*
- circulating decimal** *n* (1768): **REPEATING DECIMAL**
- circ-ula-tion** \sər-kyə-lā-shən\ *n* (1654) **1**: orderly movement through a circuit; *esp*: the movement of blood through the vessels of the body induced by the pumping action of the heart **2**: **FLOW** **3 a**: passage or transmission from person to person or place to place; *esp*: the interchange of currency (coins in ~) **b**: the extent of dissemination: *as* (1): the average number of copies of a publication sold over a given period (2): the total number of items borrowed from a library
- circ-ula-to-ry** \sər-kyə-lə-tōr-ē-, -tōr-ē\ *adj* (1605): of or relating to circulation or the circulatory system (~ failure)
- circulatory system** *n* (1862): the system of blood, blood vessels, lymphatics, and heart concerned with the circulation of the blood and lymph
- circum-** *prefix* [OF or L; OF, fr. L, fr. *circum*, fr. *circus* circle — more at **CIRCLE**]: around: about (*circumpolar*)
- circ-um-am-bi-ent** \sər-kəm-ˈmā-m-bē-ənt\ *adj* [LL *circumambient-*, *circumambiens*, pp. of *circumambire* to surround in a circle, fr. L *circum-* + *ambire* to go around — more at **AMBIENT**] (1633): being on all sides: **ENCOMPASSING** — **circ-um-am-bi-ent-ly** *adv*
- circ-um-am-bu-late** \-byə-lāt\ *vb -lat-ed; -lat-ing* [LL *circumambulare*, pp. of *circumambulare*, fr. L *circum-* + *ambulare* to walk] (ca. 1656): to circle on foot *esp*. ritualistically — **circ-um-am-bu-la-tion** \-mā-m-byə-lā-shən\ *n*
- circ-um-cen-ter** \sər-kəm-sent-ər\ *n* (ca. 1889): the point at which the perpendicular bisectors of the sides of a triangle intersect and which is equidistant from the three vertices
- circ-um-cir-cle** \sər-kəl\ *n* (1885): a circle which passes through all the vertices of a polygon (as a triangle)
- circ-um-cise** \sər-kəm-sīz\ *vt -cised; -cis-ing* [ME *circumcisis*, fr. L *circumcisis*, pp. of *circumcidere*, fr. *circum-* + *caedere* to cut — more at **CONCISE**] (13c): to cut off the prepuce of (a male) or the clitoris of (a female) — **circ-um-cis-er** *n*
- circ-um-cis-ion** \sər-kəm-sīz-ən, -sər-kəm-ən\ *n* (12c) **1 a**: the act of circumcising; *specif*: a Jewish rite performed on male infants as a sign of inclusion in the Jewish religious community **b**: the condition of being circumcised **2 cap**: January 1 observed as a church festival in commemoration of the circumcision of Jesus
- circ-um-fer-ence** \sə(r)-kəm(p)-fərn(t)s-, -f(ə)-rən(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *circumferentia*, fr. *circumferre* to carry around, fr. *circum-* + *ferre* to carry — more at **BEAR**] (14c) **1**: the perimeter of a circle **2**: the external boundary or surface of a figure or object: **PERIPHERY** — **circ-um-fer-en-tial** \-kəm(p)-fə-rən-chəl\ *adj*
- circ-um-flex** \sər-kəm-fleks\ *adj* [L *circumflexus*, pp. of *circumflectere* to bend around, mark with a circumflex, fr. *circum-* + *flectere* to bend] (1577) **1**: characterized by the pitch, quantity, or quality indicated by a circumflex **2**: marked with a circumflex
- circumflex** *n* (1609): a mark ^, ^, or ^ orig. used in Greek over long vowels to indicate a rising-falling tone and in other languages to mark length, contraction, or a particular vowel quality
- circ-um-flu-ent** \sər-kəm-flə-wənt-, -sər-kəm-flū-ənt\ *adj* [fr. L *circum-fluent-*, *circumfluens*, pp. of *circumfluere* to flow around, fr. *circum-* + *fluere* to flow] (1577): flowing round or surrounding in the manner of a fluid — **circ-um-flu-ous** \sər-kəm-flə-wəs\ *adj*
- circ-um-fuse** \sər-kəm-fyüz\ *vt -fused; -fusing* [L *circumfusus*, pp. of *circumfundere* to pour around, fr. *circum-* + *fundere* to pour — more at **FOUND**] (1605): **SURROUND**, **ENVELOP** — **circ-um-fu-sion** \-fyū-zhən\ *n*
- circ-um-ja-cent** \sər-kəm-ˈjās-ənt\ *adj* [L *circumjacens*, *circumjacens*, pp. of *circumjacere* to lie around, fr. *circum-* + *jacere* to lie — more at **ADJACENT**] (15c): lying adjacent on all sides: **SURROUNDING**
- circ-um-lo-cu-tion** \sər-kəm-lō-kyū-shən\ *n* [L *circumlocution-*, *circumlocutio*, fr. *circum-* + *locutio* speech, fr. *locutus*, pp. of *loqui* to speak] (15c) **1**: the use of an unnecessarily large number of words to express an idea **2**: evasion in speech — **circ-um-loc-u-to-ry** \-lāk-yə-tōr-ē-, -tōr-ē\ *adj*
- circ-um-lu-nar** \sər-kəm-lū-nər\ *adj* (ca. 1909): revolving about or surrounding the moon
- circ-um-nav-i-gate** \-nav-ə-gāt\ *vt* [L *circumnavigatus*, pp. of *circumnavigare* to sail around, fr. *circum-* + *navigare* to navigate] (1634): to go completely around (as the earth) *esp*. by water; *also*: to go around instead of through: **BYPASS** (~ a congested area) — **circ-um-nav-i-ga-tion** \-nav-ə-gā-shən\ *n* — **circ-um-nav-i-ga-tor** \-nav-ə-gāt-ər\ *n*
- circ-um-po-lar** \sər-kəm-pō-lər\ *adj* (1686) **1**: continually visible above the horizon (a ~ star) **2**: surrounding or found in the vicinity of a terrestrial pole
- circ-um-scis-sile** \-sis-əl-, -il\ *adj* [L *circumscissus*, pp. of *circumscindere* to tear around, fr. *circum-* + *scindere* to cut, split — more at **SHED**] (1835): dehiscing by fissure around the capsule of the fruit
- circ-um-scribe** \sər-kəm-skrib\ *vt* [L *circumscribere*, fr. *circum-* + *scribere* to write, draw — more at **SCRIBE**] (1835) **1 a**: to constrict the range or activity of definitely and clearly **b**: to define or mark off carefully **2 a**: to draw a line around **b**: to surround by a boundary **3**: to construct or be constructed around (a geometrical figure) so as to touch as many points as possible *syn* see **LIMIT**
- circ-um-scrip-tion** \sər-kəm-skrip-shən\ *n* [L *circumscription-*, *circumscrip-tio*, fr. *circumscribus*, pp. of *circumscribere*] (1531) **1**: the act of circumscribing: the state of being circumscribed: *as* **a**: **DEFINITION**, **DELIMITATION** **b**: **LIMITATION** **2**: something that circumscribes: *as* **a**: **LIMIT**, **BOUNDARY** **b**: **RESTRICTION** **3**: a circumscribed area or district
- circ-um-spect** \sər-kəm-spekt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF or L; MF *circonspect*, fr. L *circumspectus*, pp. of *circumspicere* to look around, be cautious, fr. *circum-* + *specere* to look — more at **SPY**] (15c): careful to consider all circumstances and possible consequences: **PRUDENT** *syn* see **CAUTIOUS** — **circ-um-spec-tion** \sər-kəm-spek-shən\ *n* — **circ-um-spec-tly** \sər-kəm-spek-tlē\ *adv*
- circ-um-stance** \sər-kəm-ˈstān(t)s-, -stən(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *circumstantia*, fr. *circumstant-*, *circumstans*, pp. of *circumstare* to stand around, fr. *circum-* + *stare* to stand — more at **STAND**] (13c) **1 a**: a condition, fact, or event accompanying, conditioning, or determining another: an essential or inevitable concomitant (the weather is a ~ to be taken into consideration) **b**: a subordinate or accessory fact or detail (cost is a minor ~ in this case) **c**: a piece of evidence that indicates the probability or improbability of an event (as a crime) (the ~ of the missing weapon told against him) (the ~s suggest murder) **2 a**: the sum of essential and environmental factors (as of an event or situation) (constant and rapid change in economic ~ — G. M. Trevelyan) **b**: state of affairs: **EVENTUALITY** (open rebellion was a rare ~) — often used in pl. (a victim of ~s) **c pl**: situation with regard to wealth (he was in easy ~s) **3**: attendant formalities and ceremonial (pride, pomp, and ~ of glorious war — Shak.) **4**: an event that constitutes a detail (as of a narrative or course of events) (considering each ~ in turn) *syn* see **OCCURRENCE**
- circ-um-stanced** \-stān(t)st-, -stən(t)st\ *adj* (1611): placed in particular circumstances *esp*. in regard to property or income
- circ-um-stan-tial** \sər-kəm-ˈstān-chəl\ *adj* (1600) **1**: belonging to, consisting in, or dependent on circumstances **2**: pertinent but not essential: **INCIDENTAL** **3**: marked by careful attention to detail: abounding in factual details (a ~ account of the fight) **4**: **CEREMONIAL** — **circ-um-stan-ti-al-ity** \-stān-chē-ˈal-ət-ē\ *n* — **circ-um-stan-ti-al-ly** \-stānch-(ə-)lē\ *adv*
- syn* **CIRCUMSTANTIAL**, **MINUTE**, **PARTICULAR**, **DETAILED** mean dealing with a matter fully and usu. point by point. **CIRCUMSTANTIAL** implies fullness of detail that fixes something described in time and space (a *circumstantial* account of our visit) **MINUTE** implies close and searching attention to the smallest details (a *minute* examination of a fossil) **PARTICULAR** implies a precise attention to every detail (a *particular* description of the scene of the crime) **DETAILED** stresses abundance or completeness of detail (a *detailed* analysis of the event)
- circumstantial evidence** *n* (1736): evidence that tends to prove a fact by proving other events or circumstances which afford a basis for a reasonable inference of the occurrence of the fact at issue
- circ-um-stan-ti-ate** \sər-kəm-ˈstān-chē-āt\ *vt -at-ed; -at-ing* (ca. 1652): to supply with circumstantial evidence or support
- circ-um-stel-lar** \sər-kəm-ˈstəl-ər\ *adj* (1951): surrounding or occurring in the vicinity of a star



q \k'yu\ *n*, *pl* **q's** or **qs** \k'yu\ *often cap, often attrib*
1 a : the 17th letter of the English alphabet **b** : a graphic representation of this letter **c** : a speech counterpart of orthographic **q** **2** : a graphic device for reproducing the letter **q** **3** : one designated **q** esp. as the 17th in order or class **4** : something shaped like the letter **Q**

Q-boat \k'yu-,bōt\ *n* (ca. 1918) : **Q-SHIP**

Q fever \k'yu- \ *n* [query] (ca. 1937) : a mild disease characterized by high fever, chills, and muscular pains, caused by a rickettsia (*Coxiella burnetii*), and transmitted by raw milk, by contact, or

by ticks

qin-tar \k(y)in-'tār\ *n*, *pl* **qin-dar-ka** \k(y)in-'dār-kə\ or **qintar** [Alb] (ca. 1929) — see **lek** at **money** table

qi-vi-ut \k'ē-vē-ut-,vē-,ūt\ *n* [Esk] (ca. 1958) : the wool of the undercoat of the musk-ox

qoph \k'ōf\ *n* [Heb qōph] (1873) : the 19th letter of the Hebrew alphabet — see **ALPHABET** table

Q-ship \k'yu-,ship\ *n* (ca. 1919) : an armed ship disguised as a merchant or fishing ship and used to decoy enemy submarines into gun range

qt \k'yu-'tē\ *n*, *often cap* **Q&T** [abbr.] (ca. 1885) : **QUIET** — usu. used in the phrase on the **qt**

qua \k'wā also k'wā\ *prep* [L, which way, as, fr. abl. sing. fem. of *qui* who — more at **WHO**] (1647) : in the capacity or character of : AS (the belief that all men ~ men have certain essential rights — W. K. Frankena)

Quaa-lude \k'wā-,lūd\ *trademark* — used for methaqualone

quack \k'wak\ *n* [imit] (14c) : a noise made by quacking

quack vi (1617) : to make the characteristic cry of a duck

quack vi [quack] (1628) : to play the quack

quack n [short for *quacksalver*] (1638) **1** : **CHARLATAN** **2** : a pretender to medical skill — **quack-ish** \-ish\ *adj*

quack adj (1653) : of, relating to, or characteristic of a quack; esp : pretending to cure diseases

quack-ery \k'wak-(ə-)rē\ *n* (1709) : the practices or pretensions of a quack

quack grass \k'wak- \ *n* [alter. of *quick* (grass), alter. of *quitch* (grass)] (1712) : a European grass (*Agropyron repens*) that is naturalized throughout No. America as a weed and spreads by creeping rhizomes — called also *couch grass*, *quitch*, *twitch*, *witchgrass*

quack-sal-ver \k'wak-sal-vər\ *n* [obs. D (now *kwakzalver*)] (1579) : **CHARLATAN**, **QUACK**

quadr \k'wād\ *n* (1820) : **QUADRANGLE**

quadr n [short for *quadrant*] (ca. 1879) : a type-metal space that is 1 en or more in width

quadr vt **quadr-dee**; **quadr-ding** (ca. 1888) : to fill out (as a typeset line) with blank space

quadr n (1896) : **QUADRUPLET**

quadr adj [by shortening] (ca. 1970) : **QUADRIPHONIC**

quadr n [by shortening] (ca. 1971) : **QUADRIPHONY**

quadr n [short for *quadrillion*] (1974) : a unit of energy equal to one quadrillion British thermal units

quadr-ran-gle \k'wād-ran-gəl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *quadrangulum*, fr. L, neut. of *quadrangulus* quadrangular, fr. *quadr-* + *angulus* angle] (15c) **1** : **QUADRILATERAL** **2 a** : a 4-sided enclosure esp. when surrounded by buildings **b** : the buildings enclosing a quadrangle **3** : a tract of country represented by one of a series of map sheets (as published by the U.S. Geological Survey) — **qua-dran-gu-lar** \k'wā-'dran-gy-lər\ *adj*

quadr-rant \k'wād-rant\ *n* [ME, fr. L *quadrant-*

quadrans fourth part; akin to L *quattuor* four — more at **FOUR**] (15c) **1 a** : an instrument for measuring altitudes consisting commonly of a graduated arc of 90° with an index or vernier and usu. having a plumb line or spirit level for fixing the vertical or horizontal direction **b** : a device or mechanical part shaped like or suggestive of the quadrant of a circle **2 a** : an arc of 90° that is one quarter of a circle **b** : the area bounded by a quadrant and two radii **3 a** : any of the four parts into which a plane is divided by rectangular coordinate axes lying in that plane **b** : any of the four quarters into which something is divided by two real or imaginary lines that intersect each other at right angles — **qua-dran-tal** \k'wā-'drant-əl\ *adj*

Qua-dran-tid \k'wā-'drant-əd\ *n* [NL *Quadrant-*, *Quadrans* (Muralis) mural quadrant, a group of stars in the constellation Draco from which the shower appears to radiate] (ca. 1876) : one of the shooting stars constituting the meteoric shower that recurs near the 3d of January

quad-ra-phon-ic \k'wād-rə-'fān-ik\ *adj* [*quadr-* (modif. of *quadr-*) + *phonic*] (ca. 1970) : of or relating to quadriphony : **QUADRIPHONIC** — **quad-ra-phon-ics** \-iks\ *n* *pl* but sing in constr

quadr-rat \k'wād-rāt-, -rāt\ *n* [alter. of *quadrante*] (1683) **1** : **QUAD** **2** : a usu. rectangular plot used for ecological or population studies

quadr-rate \k'wād-rāt-, -rāt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *quadratus*, pp. of *quadrare* to make square, fit; akin to L *quattuor* four] (14c) **1** : being square or approximately square **2** of a heraldic cross : expanded into a square at the junction of the arms — see **CROSS** illustration **3** : of, relating to, or constituting a bony or cartilaginous element of each side of the skull to which the lower jaw is articulated in most vertebrates below mammals

quadr-rate n (15c) **1** : an approximately square or cubical area, space, or body **2** : a quadrat bone

qua-drat-ic \k'wā-'drat-ik\ *adj* (1668) : involving terms of the second degree at most (~ function) (~ equations) — **quadratic n** — **qua-drat-ic-al-ly** \-i-(ə-)lē\ *adv*

quadratic form n (1859) : a homogeneous polynomial of the second degree ($x^2 + 5xy + y^2$ is a *quadratic form*)

quad-ra-ture \k'wād-rə-'chū(ə)r-, -chər-, -t(y)ū(ə)r\ *n* (1591) **1 a** : a configuration in which two celestial bodies have a separation of 90 degrees **b** : either of two points on an orbit in a middle position between the syzygies **2** : the process of finding a square equal in area to a given area

qua-dren-ni-al \k'wā-'dren-ē-əl\ *adj* (ca. 1656) **1** : consisting of or lasting for four years **2** : occurring or being done every four years — **quadrennial n** — **qua-dren-ni-al-ly** \-ē-ə-lē\ *adv*

qua-dren-ni-um \-ē-əm\ *n*, *pl* **ni-ums** or **nia** \-ē-ə\ [L *quadrenniūm*, fr. *quadr-* + *annus* year — more at **ANNUAL**] (ca. 1754) : a period of four years

quadr- or **quadr-** or **quadr-** *comb form* [ME, fr. L; akin to L *quattuor* four] **1 a** : four (*quadrilingual*) (*quadrumanous*) **b** : square (*quadr-*) **2** : fourth (*quadracentennial*)

quadr-ric \k'wād-rik\ *adj* [ISV] (1858) : **QUADRATIC** (~ surface) — used where there are more than two variables — **quadratic n**

quad-ri-cen-ten-ni-al \k'wād-rə-sen-'ten-ē-əl\ *n* (1882) : a 400th anniversary or its celebration

quad-ri-ceps \k'wād-rə-'seps\ *n* [NL *quadriceps*, fr. *quadr-* + *cipit-*, -ceps (as in *bicipit-*, *biceps* biceps) (1840) : the great extensor muscle of the front of the thigh divided above into four parts

qua-dri-ga \k'wā-'drē-gə\ *n*, *pl* **-gae** \-gē\ [L, sing. of *quadriga* team of four, contr. of *quadrijugae*, fem. pl. of *quadrijugus* yoked four abreast, fr. *quadr-* + *jungere* to yoke, join — more at **YOKE**] (1727) : a chariot drawn by four horses abreast

quad-ri-lat-er-al \k'wād-rə-'lat-ə-rəl-, -'la-trəl\ *n* (1650) **1** : a polygon of four sides **2** : a combination or group that involves four parts or individuals

quadrilateral adj [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *quadrilateralis*, fr. L *quadrilaterus*, fr. *quadr-* + *later-*, *latus* side] (1656) : having four sides

qua-drille \k'wā-'dril, k(w)ə- \ *n* [F, group of knights engaged in a carousel, fr. Sp. *cuadrilla* troop, fr. *cuarto* fourth] (1726) **1** : a four-handed variant of ombre popular esp. in the 18th century **2** : a square dance for four couples made up of five or six figures chiefly in ½ and ¼ time; also : music for this dance

quadrille adj [F *quadrille*] (ca. 1885) : marked with squares or rectangles

qua-dril-lion \k'wā-'dril-yən\ *n* [F, fr. MF, fr. *quadr-* + *-illion* (as in *million*)] (ca. 1674) — see **NUMBER** table — **quadrillion adj** — **qua-dril-lionth** \-yən(t)h\ *adj* or *n*

quad-ri-par-tite \k'wād-rə-'pār-,tīt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *quadrupartitus*, fr. *quadr-* + *partitus*, pp. of *partire* to divide, fr. *part-*, *pars* part] (15c) **1** : consisting of or divided into four parts **2** : shared or participated in by four parties or persons (a ~ agreement)

quad-ri-phon-ics \k'wād-rə-'fān-iks\ *n* *pl* but sing in constr (ca. 1970) : **QUADRIPHONY**

quad-ri-phony \k'wād-rə-'fān-ē\ *n* (1969) : the transmission, recording, or reproduction of sound by techniques that utilize four transmission channels — **quad-ri-phon-ic** also **quad-ro-phon-ic** \k'wād-rə-'fān-ik\ *adj*

quad-ri-ple-gic \k'wād-rə-'plē-jik\ *n* [*quadriplegia*, fr. NL, fr. *quadr-* + *-plegia*] (1921) : one affected with paralysis of both arms and both legs — **quad-ri-ple-gia** \-j(ē)-ə\ *n*

quad-ri-val-ent \-vā-lənt\ *adj* [ISV] (1865) **1** : **TETRAVALENT** **2** : composed of four homologous chromosomes synapsed in meiotic prophase

quadrivalent n (1923) : a quadrivalent chromosomal group

qua-driv-al \k'wā-'driv-ē-əl\ *adj* (15c) **1** : of or relating to the quadrivium **2** : having four ways or roads meeting in a point

qua-driv-i-um \-ē-əm\ *n* [LL, fr. L, crossroads, fr. *quadr-* + *via* way — more at **VIA**] (1804) : a group of studies consisting of arithmetic, music, geometry, and astronomy and forming the upper division of the seven liberal arts in medieval universities — compare **TRIVIUM**

qua-droon \k'wā-'drūn\ *n* [modif. of Sp *cuarterón*, fr. *cuarto* fourth, fr. L *quartus*] (1707) : a person of one-quarter Negro ancestry

qua-dru-ma-nous \k'wā-'drū-mə-nəs\ *adj* [deriv. of L *quadr-* + *manus* hand + *-ous* — more at **MANUAL**] (1699) : of, relating to, or being the primates excluding man which are distinguished by hand-shaped feet

qua-drum-vir \k'wā-'drəm-vər\ *n* [back-formation fr. *quadrumvirate*] (1790) : a member of a quadrumvirate

qua-drum-vi-rate \-və-rət\ *n* [*quadr-* + *-umvirate* (as in *triumvirate*)] (1752) : a group or association of four

quad-ru-ped \k'wād-rə-'ped\ *n* [L *quadruped-*, *quadrupes*, fr. *quadruped-*, *quadrupes*, adj., having four feet, fr. *quadr-* + *ped-*, *pes* foot — more at **FOOT**] (1646) : an animal having four feet — **quadruped adj** — **qua-dru-ped-al** \k'wā-'drū-pəd-əl-, k'wād-rə-'ped-əl\ *adj*

qua-dru-ple \k'wā-'drūp-əl-, -'drəp-; k'wād-rəp-əl\ *vb* **qua-dru-pled**; **qua-dru-pling** \-(ə-)lɪŋ\ *vt* (14c) : to make four times as great or as many ~ *vi* : to become four times as great or as numerous

quadruple n (1609) : a sum four times as great as another

quadruple adj [MF or L; MF, fr. L *quadruplus*, fr. *quadr-* + *-plus* multiplied by — more at **-FOLD**] (ca. 1557) **1** : having four units or members **2** : being four times as great or as many **3** : marked by four beats per measure (~ meter) — **qua-dru-ple** \-drūp-lē-, -'drəp-, -rəp- \ *adv* — **qua-dru-ple-ity** \k'wād-rū-'plis-ē-ē\ *n*

qua-dru-plet \k'wā-'drū-plət-, -'drəp-lət; k'wād-rə-plət\ *n* (1787) **1** : one of four offspring born at one birth **2** : a combination of four of a kind **3** : a group of four musical notes to be performed in the time ordinarily given to three of the same kind

qua-dru-ple-cate \k'wā-'drū-pli-kət\ *adj* [L *quadruplicatus*, pp. of *quadruplicare* to quadruple, fr. *quadruplic-*, *quadruplex* fourfold, fr. *quadr-* + *-plic-*, *-plex* fold — more at **-FOLD**] (1657) **1** : consisting of or existing in four corresponding or identical parts or examples (~ invoices) **2** : being the fourth of four things exactly alike

qua-dru-ple-cate \-plə-kāt\ *vt* **-cat-ed**; **-cat-ing** (ca. 1661) **1** : to make quadruple or fourfold **2** : to prepare in quadruplicate — **qua-dru-ple-cation** \-drū-plə-'kā-shən\ *n*

qua-dru-ple-cate \k'wā-'drū-pli-kət\ *n* (1790) **1** : four copies all alike — used with *in* (typed in ~) **2** : one of four things exactly alike; *specif* : one of four identical copies

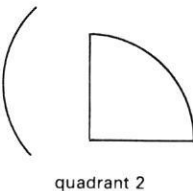
qua-dru-pole \k'wād-rə-'pōl\ *n* [ISV *quadr-* + *pole*] (1922) : a system composed of two dipoles of equal but oppositely directed moment

qua-re \k'wī(ə)r-ē-, k'wē(ə)r- \ *n* [L, imper. of *quaerere* to seek, question] (1589) : **QUERY**

qua-es-tor \k'wēs-tər-, k'wē-stər\ *n* [ME *questor*, fr. L *quaestor*, fr. *quaes-*, pp. of *quaerere*] (14c) : one of numerous ancient Roman officials concerned chiefly with financial administration

quaff \k'wāf, 'kwāf\ *vb* [origin unknown] *vi* (1523) : to drink deeply ~ *vt* : to drink (a beverage) deeply — **quaff n** — **quaff-er n**

quag \k'wag, 'kwāg\ *n* [origin unknown] (1589) : **MARSH**, **BOG**



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sea-plane \ˈsɪˌplæn\ n (1913): an airplane designed to take off from and land on the water
sea-port \ˈsiːˌpɔrt\ n (1596): a port, harbor, or town accessible to seagoing ships
sea power n (1849) 1: a nation having formidable naval strength 2: naval strength
sea purse n (1856): the horny egg case of skates and of some sharks
sea puss \ˈsiːˌpʊs\ n [by folk etymology fr. a word of Algonquian origin; akin to Delaware *sepus* small brook] (1891): a swirling or along shore undertow
sea-quake \ˈsiːˌkwæk\ n [sea + -quake (as in earthquake)] (1680): a submarine earthquake
sear var of **SERE**
sear \ˈsɪ(ə)r\ vb [ME *seren*, fr. OE *sērian* to become sere, fr. *sēar* sere] vi (bef. 12c): to cause withering or drying ~ vt 1: to make withered and dry 2: to burn, scorch, or injure with or as if with sudden application of intense heat — **sear-ingly** \-ɪŋ-lē\ adv
sear n (1874): a mark or scar left by searing
sear n [prob. fr. MF *serre* grasp, fr. *serre* to press, grasp, fr. LL *serare* to bolt, latch, fr. L *sera* bar for fastening a door] (1596): the catch that holds the hammer of a gunlock at cock or half cock
search \ˈsɜːtʃ\ vb [ME *cerchen*, fr. MF *cerchier* to go about, survey, search, fr. LL *circare* to go about, fr. L *circum* round about — more at CIRCUM-] vi (14c) 1: to look into or over carefully or thoroughly in an effort to find or discover something: as a: to examine in seeking something (~ed the north field) b: to look through or explore by inspecting possible places of concealment or investigating suspicious circumstances c: to read thoroughly: CHECK; esp: to examine a public record or register for information about (~ land titles) d: to examine for articles concealed on the person e: to look at as if to discover or penetrate intention or nature 2: to uncover, find, or come to know by inquiry or scrutiny — usu. used with out ~ vi 1: to look or inquire carefully (~ed for the papers) 2: to make painstaking investigation or examination — **search-able** \ˈsɜːtʃ-ə-bəl\ adj — **search-er** n — **search-ingly** \-ɪŋ-lē\ adv
search n (15c) 1 a: an act of searching (~ for food) (go in ~ of help) b: an act of boarding and inspecting a ship on the high seas in exercise of right of search 2 obs: a party that searches 3: power or range of penetrating; also: a penetrating effect
search-less \ˈsɜːtʃ-ləs\ adj (1605): INSCRUTABLE, IMPENETRABLE
search-light \-līt\ n (1883) 1: an apparatus for projecting a beam of light; also: a beam of light projected by it 2: FLASHLIGHT 3
search warrant n (1818): a warrant authorizing a search (as of a house) for stolen goods or unlawful possessions (as gambling implements)
sea robin n (1814): any of various marine fishes (family Triglidae) with a spiny armored head and the bottom three rays of the pectoral fin on each side free of membrane and modified for use as feelers or in crawling — called also *gurnard*
sea room n (1554): room for maneuver at sea
sea rover n (1579): one that roves the sea; specif: PIRATE
sea-run \ˈsiːˌrʌn\ adj (1885): ANADROMOUS (~ salmon)
sea-scape \ˈsiːˌskæp\ n (1799) 1: a view of the sea 2: a picture representing a scene at sea
sea scorpion n (1896): SCULPIN
Sea Scout n (1911): SEA EXPLORER
sea serpent n (1774): a large marine animal resembling a serpent often reported to have been seen but never proved to exist
sea-shell \ˈsiːˌʃel\ n (bef. 12c): the shell of a marine animal and esp. a mollusk
sea-shore \ˈsiːˌʃɔr\, -ˌʃɔ(ə)r\ n (1526) 1 a: land adjacent to the sea 2: SEACOAST b: NATIONAL SEASHORE 2: all the ground between the ordinary high-water and low-water marks: FORESHORE
sea-sick \ˈsiːˌsɪk\ adj (1566): affected with or suggestive of seasickness
sea-sick-ness \-nas\ n (1625): motion sickness experienced on the water
sea-side \ˈsiːˌsaɪd\ n (13c): the district or land bordering the sea: country adjacent to the sea: SEASHORE — **seaside** adj
sea slug n (1779) 1: HOLOTHURIAN 2: a naked marine gastropod; specif: NUDIBRANCH
sea snake n (1755) 1: SEA SERPENT 2: any of numerous venomous aquatic viviparous snakes (family Hydrophiidae) of warm seas
season \ˈsiːz-n\ n [ME, fr. MF *saison*, fr. OF, fr. L *satio*, *satio* action of sowing, fr. *satus*, pp. of *serere* to sow — more at sow] (14c) 1 a: a time characterized by a particular circumstance or feature (in a ~ of religious awakening — F. A. Christie) b: a suitable or natural time or occasion (when my ~ comes to sit on David's throne — John Milton) c: an indefinite period of time: WHILE (sent home again to her father for a ~ — Francis Hackett) 2 a: a period of the year characterized by or associated with a particular activity or phenomenon (hay fever ~): as (1): a period associated with some phase or activity of agriculture (as growth or harvesting) (2): a period in which an animal engages in some activity (as migrating or mating); also: ESTRUS, HEAT (3): the period normally characterized by a particular kind of weather (a long rainy ~) (4): a period marked by special activity in some field (the theatrical ~) (the hunting ~) (5): a period in which a place is most frequented b: one of the four quarters into which the year is commonly divided c: the time of a major holiday 3: YEAR (a boy of seven ~) 4 [ME *sesoun*, fr. *sesouner* to season]: SEASONING 5: the schedule of official games played or to be played by a sports team during a playing season (try to get through the ~ undefeated) 6: OFF-SEASON (closed for the ~) — **season-less** adj — **in season** 1: at the right time 2: at the stage of greatest fitness (as for eating) (peaches are in season) 3: legally available to be hunted or caught — **out of season** 1: not in season
season vb **seasoned**; **season-ing** \ˈsiːz-nɪŋ, -nɪŋ\ [ME *sesounen*, fr. MF *assaisonner* to ripen, season, fr. OF, fr. a- (fr. L *ad-*) + *saison* season] vi (14c) 1 a: to give (food) more flavor or zest by adding seasoning or savory ingredients b: to give a distinctive quality to as if by seasoning; esp: to make more agreeable (advice ~ed with wit) c *archaic*: to qualify by admixture: TEMPER 2 a: to treat (as lumber) so as to prepare for use b: to make fit by experience (a ~ed veteran) ~ vi 1: to become seasoned
season-able \ˈsiːz-nə-bəl, -nə-bəl\ adj (14c) 1: suitable to the season or circumstances: TIMELY (a ~ frost) 2: occurring in good or proper

time: OPPORTUNE (a ~ time for discussion) — **season-able-ness** n — **season-ably** \-blē\ adv
season-al \ˈsiːz-nəl, -nəl\ adj (1838) 1: of, relating to, or varying in occurrence according to the season (~ storms) 2: affected or caused by seasonal need or availability (~ unemployment) (~ industries) — **season-ali-ty** \ˈsiːz-nəl-ə-ti\ n — **season-al-ly** \ˈsiːz-nəl-lē, -nəl-lē\ adv
season-er \ˈsiːz-nər, -nər\ n (1598): one that seasons: as a: a user of seasonings (a heavy ~) b: SEASONING
season-ing \ˈsiːz-nɪŋ, -nɪŋ\ n (1580): something that serves to season; esp: an ingredient (as a condiment, spice, or herb) added to food primarily for the savor that it imparts
season ticket n (1820): a ticket (as to all of a club's home games or for specified daily transportation) valid during a specified time
sea spider n (1666): any of various small long-legged marine arthropods (class Pycnogonida) that superficially resemble spiders
sea squirt n (1850): a sessile tunicate: ASCIDIAN
sea star n (1569): STARFISH
sea steps n pl (1899): projecting metal plates or bars attached to the side of a ship by which it may be boarded
sea stores n pl (1659): supplies (as of foodstuffs) laid in before starting on a sea voyage
sea-strand \ˈsiːˌstrænd\ n (bef. 12c): SEASHORE
seat \ˈsiːt\ n [ME *sete*, fr. ON *sætt*: akin to OE *sittan* to sit] (13c) 1 a: a special chair of one in eminence; also: the status represented by it b: a chair, stool, or bench intended to be sat in or on c: the particular part of something on which one rests in sitting (the ~ of a chair) (trouser ~) d: BUTTOCKS 2 a: a seating accommodation (~ for the game) (a 200-seat restaurant) b: a right of sitting (lost his ~ in Congress) c: membership on an exchange 3 a: a place occupied by something b: a place from which authority is exercised (the county ~) c: a bodily part in which some function or condition is centered (the brain as the ~ of the mind) 4: posture in or way of sitting on horseback 5 a: a part at or forming the base of something b: a part (as a socket) or surface on or in which another part or surface rests
seat vt (1593) 1 a: to install in a seat of dignity or office b (1): to cause to sit or assist in finding a seat (2): to provide seats for (a theater ~ing 1000 persons) c: to put in a sitting position 2: to repair the seat of or provide a new seat for 3: to fit to or with a seat (~ a valve) ~ vi 1 *archaic*: to take one's seat or place 2: to fit correctly on a seat — **seater** n
seat belt n (1948): an arrangement of straps designed to hold a person steady in a seat (as during the takeoff of an airplane or while driving an automobile)
-seater \ˈsiːt-ər\ n *comb form*: one that has a specified number of seats (the car was a 4-seater)
seating \ˈsiːt-ɪŋ\ n (1880) 1: the act of providing with seats 2 a: material for covering or upholstering seats b: a seat on or in which something rests (~ a valve ~)
seat-mate \ˈsiːtˌmæt\ n (1859): one with whom one shares a seat
seat-of-the-pants adj (1942): employing or based on personal experience, judgment, and effort rather than technological aids (~ navigation) (~ a pilot)
sea-train \ˈsiːˌtraɪn\ n (1932): a seagoing ship equipped for carrying a train of railroad cars
sea trout n (1745) 1: any of various trouts or chars that as adults inhabit the sea but ascend rivers to spawn 2: any of various marine fishes felt to resemble trouts: as a: WEAKFISH 1 b: SPOTTED SEA TROUT
sea turtle n (1764): any of two families (Cheloniidae and Dermochelyidae) of widely distributed marine turtles with the feet modified into paddles that include the green turtle, leatherback, hawksbill, loggerhead, and ridley
sea urchin n (1591): any of a class (Echinoidea) of oblate echinoderms that are usu. enclosed in thin brittle shells covered with movable spines
sea-wall \ˈsiːˌwɔl\ n (15c): a wall or embankment to protect the shore from erosion or to act as a breakwater
seaward \ˈsiːˌwɔrd\ n (14c): the direction or side away from land and toward the open sea
seaward adj (15c) 1: directed or situated toward the sea 2: coming from the sea (a ~ wind)
seaward also **sea-wards** \-wɔrdz\ adv (1540): toward the sea
sea wasp n (1940): any of various scyphozoan jellyfishes (order or suborder Cubomedusae) that sting virulently and sometimes fatally
sea-water \ˈsiːˌwɔt-ər, -wɔt\ n (bef. 12c): water in or from the sea
sea-way \ˈsiːˌwə\ n (bef. 12c) 1: the sea as a route for travel; also: an ocean traffic lane 2: a ship's headway 3: a moderate or rough sea 4: a deep inland waterway that admits ocean shipping
sea-weed \ˈsiːˌwed\ n (1577) 1: a mass or growth of marine plants 2: a plant growing in the sea; esp: a marine alga (as a kelp)
sea whip n (1858): a gorgonian with an elongated flexible unbranched or little-branched axis
sea-wor-thy \ˈsiːˌwɔr-thē\ adj (1807): fit or safe for a sea voyage (a ~ ship) — **sea-wor-thi-ness** \-thē-nəs\ n
sea wrack n (1551): SEAWEED; esp: that cast ashore in masses
se-ba-ceous \ˈsiːˌbæ-shəs\ adj [L *sebaceus* made of tallow, fr. *sebum* tallow — more at SOAP] (1728) 1: secreting sebum (~ glands) 2: of, relating to, or being fatty material: FATTY (a ~ exudate)
se-ba-cic acid \ˈsiːˌbas-ik-, -sē-, -bā-sik\ n [ISV, fr. L *sebaceus*] (1790): a crystalline dicarboxylic acid C₁₀H₁₈O₄ used esp. in the manufacture of synthetic resins
seb-or-rhea \ˈseb-əˌrē-ə\ n [NL, fr. L *sebum* + NL *-rrhea*] (1876): abnormally increased secretion and discharge of sebum — **seb-or-rheic** \-rē-ik\ adj
se-bum \ˈseb-əm\ n [L, tallow, grease — more at SOAP] (1876): fatty lubricant matter secreted by sebaceous glands of the skin

\ə\ about \ʔ\ kitten, F table \ər\ further \ə\ ash \ā\ ace \ä\ cot, cart \au\ out \ch\ chin \e\ bet \e\ easy \e\ go \i\ hit \i\ ice \i\ job \j\ sing \o\ go \o\ law \oi\ boy \th\ thin \th\ the \ü\ loot \ü\ foot \y\ yet \zh\ vision \ä, k, ŋ, æ, œ, ũ, œ, ũ, see Guide to Pronunciation

second thought *n* (1633): reconsideration or a revised opinion of a previous often hurried decision (began to have *second thoughts*)

second wind *n* (1900): renewed energy or endurance

second world *n*, often *cap S&W* [after *third world*] (1967): the Communist nations as a political and economic bloc

secrecy \sē-krē-sē/ *n*, *pl* -cies [alter. of earlier *secretie*, fr. ME *secretee*, fr. *secre* secret, fr. MF *secre*, fr. L *secretus*] (15c) 1: the habit or practice of keeping secrets or maintaining privacy or concealment 2: the condition of being hidden or concealed

secret \sē-krət/ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *secretus*, fr. pp. of *secreare* to separate, distinguish, fr. *se-* apart + *cernere* to sift — more at *SECEDE*, *CERTAIN*] (14c) 1 *a*: kept from knowledge or view: **HIDDEN** *b*: marked by the habit of discretion: **CLOSEMOUTHED** *c*: working with hidden aims or methods: **UNDERCOVER** (*a* ~ agent) *d*: not acknowledged: **UNAVOWED** (*a* ~ bride) *e*: conducted in secret (*a* ~ trial) 2: remote from human frequentation or notice: **SECLUDED** 3: revealed only to the initiated: **ESOTERIC** 4: constructed so as to elude observation or detection (*a* ~ panel) 5: containing information whose unauthorized disclosure could endanger national security — compare **CONFIDENTIAL**, **TOP SECRET** — **secretly** *adv*

syn SECRET, COVERT, STEALTHY, FURTIVE, CLANDESTINE, SURREPTITIOUS, UNDERHANDED mean done without attracting observation. SECRET implies concealment on any grounds for any motive; COVERT stresses the fact of not being open or declared; STEALTHY suggests taking pains to avoid being seen or heard esp. in some misdoing; FURTIVE implies a sly or cautious stealthiness; CLANDESTINE implies secrecy usu. for an evil or illicit purpose; SURREPTITIOUS applies to action or behavior done secretly often with skillful avoidance of detection and in violation of custom, law, or authority; UNDERHANDED stresses fraud or deception.

secret *n* (14c) 1 *a*: something kept hidden or unexplained: **MYSTERY** *b*: something kept from the knowledge of others or shared only confidentially with a few *c*: a method, formula, or process used in an art or a manufacturing operation and divulged only to those of one's own company or craft *d* *pl*: the practices or knowledge making up the shared discipline or culture of an esoteric society 2: a prayer traditionally said inaudibly by the celebrant just before the preface of the mass 3: something taken to be a specific or key to a desired end (the ~ of longevity) — **in secret**: in a private place or manner: **in secrecy**

secre-tan-gogue \si-'krēt-ə-,gäg/ *n* [*secretion* + *-agogue*] (1919): a substance stimulating secretion (as by the stomach or pancreas)

secre-tar-i-at \sek-rə-'ter-ē-at, -ē-at/ *n* [F *secrétariat*, fr. ML *secretarius*, fr. *secretarius*] (1811) 1: the office of secretary 2: a secretarial corps; *specif*: the clerical staff of an organization 3: the administrative department of a governmental organization

secre-tary \sek-rə-'ter-ē, -sek-ə-'ter-, *in rapid speech* also \sek-'ter-, *esp* Brit \sek-(r)ə-'trē/ *n*, *pl* -taries [ME *secretarie*, fr. ML *secretarius*, confidential employee, secretary, fr. L *secretum* secret, fr. neut. of *secretus*, pp.] (15c) 1: one employed to handle correspondence and manage routine and detail work for a superior 2 *a*: an officer of a business concern who may keep records of directors' and stockholders' meetings and of stock ownership and transfer and help supervise the company's legal interests *b*: an officer of an organization or society responsible for its records and correspondence 3: an officer of state who superintends a government administrative department 4 *a*: **WRITING DESK**, **ESCRITOIRE** *b*: a writing desk with a top section for books — **secre-tar-i-al** \sek-rə-'ter-ē-əl/ *adj* — **secre-tary-ship** \sek-rə-'ter-ē-ship/ *n*

secretary bird *n* [prob. fr. the resemblance of its crest to a bunch of quill pens stuck behind the ear] (1797): a large long-legged African bird of prey (*Sagittarius serpentarius*) that feeds largely on reptiles

secretary-general *n*, *pl* secretaries-general (1701): a principal administrative officer

secret ballot *n* (1914): AUSTRALIAN BALLOT

se-crete \si-'krēt/ *vi* **se-cret-ed**; **se-cret-ing** [back-formation fr. *secretion*] (1707): to form and give off (a secretion)

se-crete \si-'krēt, -sē-krət/ *vi* **se-cret-ed**; **se-cret-ing** [alter. of obs. *secret*, fr. *secret*] (1741) 1: to deposit or conceal in a hiding place 2: to appropriate secretly: **ABSTRACT** **syn** see **HIDE**

se-cre-tin \si-'krēt-n/ *n* [*secretion* + *-in*] (1902): an intestinal protein and hormone capable of stimulating secretion by the pancreas and liver

se-cre-tion \si-'krē-shən/ *n* [F *secrétion*, fr. L *secretio*-, *secretio* separation, fr. *secretus*, pp. of *secreare* to separate — more at **SECRET**] (1646) 1 *a*: the process of segregating, elaborating, and releasing some material either functionally specialized (as saliva) or isolated for excretion (as urine) *b*: a product of secretion formed by an animal or plant; *esp*: one performing a specific useful function in the organism 2 [*secret*]: the act of hiding something: **CONCEALMENT** — **se-cre-tion-ary** \shə-'ner-ē/ *adj*

se-cre-tive \sē-krət-iv, si-'krēt-iv/ *adj* [back-formation fr. *secretiveness*, part trans. of F *secreter*] (1853): disposed to secrecy: not open or outgoing in speech, activity, or purposes **syn** see **SILENT** — **se-cre-tive-ly** *adv* — **se-cre-tive-ness** *n*

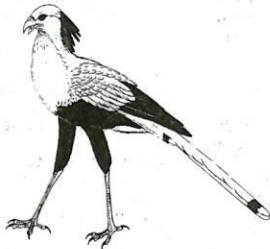
se-cre-tor \si-'krēt-ər/ *n* (1947): an individual of blood group A, B, or AB who secretes the antigens characteristic of these blood groups in bodily fluids (as saliva)

se-cre-to-ry \si-'krēt-ə-rē/ *adj* (1692): of, relating to, or promoting secretion; also: produced by secretion

secret partner *n* (ca. 1909): a partner whose membership in a partnership is kept secret from the public

secret police *n* (1921): a police organization operating for the most part in secrecy and esp. for the political purposes of its government often with terroristic methods

secret service *n* (1737) 1: a governmental service of a secret nature 2 *cap* both *SS*: a division of the U.S. Treasury Department charged chiefly with the suppression of counterfeiting and the protection of the president



secretary bird

secret society *n* (1829): any of various oath-bound societies often devoted to brotherhood, moral discipline, and mutual assistance

sect \sekt/ *n* [ME *secte*, fr. MF & LL & L: MF, group, sect, fr. LL *secta* organized ecclesiastical body, fr. L, way of life, class of persons, fr. *sequi* to follow — more at **SUE**] (14c) 1 *a*: a dissenting or schismatic religious body; *esp*: one regarded as extreme or heretical *b*: a religious denomination 2 *archaic*: SEX (so is all her ~) (Shak.) 3 *a*: a group adhering to a distinctive doctrine or to a leader *b*: **PARTY** *c*: **FACTION**

sect \sekt/ *adj* *comb* form [L *sectus*, pp. of *secare* to cut — more at **SAW**]: cut: divided (pinnatisect)

sect \sekt, 'sekt/ *vb* *comb* form [L *sectus*]: cut: divide (bisect)

sec-tar-i-an \sek-'ter-ē-an/ *adj* (1819) 1: of, relating to, or characteristic of a sect or sectarian 2: limited in character or scope: **PAROCHIAL** — **sec-tar-i-an-ism** \-ē-ə-,niz-əm/ *n*

sectarian *n* (1819) 1: an adherent of a sect 2: a narrow or bigoted person

sec-tar-i-an-ize \sek-'ter-ē-ə-,niz/ *vb* -ized; -iz-ing *vi* (1842): to act as sectarians ~ *vt*: to make sectarian

sec-tar-y \sek-tə-rē/ *n*, *pl* -ries (1558): a member of a sect

sec-tile \sek-tīl, -tīl/ *adj* [L *sectilis*, fr. *sectus*] (1805): capable of being severed by a knife with a smooth cut — **sec-til-i-ty** \sek-'tīl-ə-tē/ *n*

sec-tion \sek-shən/ *n* [L *section-*, *sectio*, fr. *sectus*] (1559) 1 *a*: the action or an instance of cutting or separating by cutting *b*: a part set off by or as if by cutting 2: a distinct part or portion of something written (as a chapter, law, or newspaper) 3 *a*: the profile of something as it would appear if cut through by an intersecting plane *b*: the plane figure resulting from the cutting of a solid by a plane 4: a natural subdivision of a taxonomic group 5: a character § used as a mark for the beginning of a section and as a reference mark 6: a piece of land one square mile in area forming one of the 36 subdivisions of a township 7: a distinct part of a territorial or political area, community, or group of people 8 *a*: a part that is, may be, or is viewed as separated (chop the stalks into ~s) (the northern ~ of the route) *b*: one segment of a fruit: **CARPEL** 9: a basic military unit usu. having a special function 10: a very thin slice (as of tissue) suitable for microscopic examination 11 *a*: one of the classes formed by dividing the students taking a course *b*: one of the discussion groups into which a conference or organization is divided 12 *a*: a division of a railroad sleeping car with an upper and a lower berth *b*: a part of a permanent railroad way under the care of a particular crew *c*: one of two or more vehicles or trains which run on the same schedule 13: one of several component parts that may be assembled or reassembled (a bookcase in ~s) 14: a division of an orchestra composed of one class of instruments 15: **SIGNATURE** 3b **syn** see **PART**

section *vb* **sectioned**; **section-ing** \-sh(ə-)nɪŋ/ *vi* (1819) 1: to cut or separate into sections 2: to represent in sections ~ *vi*: to become cut or separated into parts

section-al \sek-shənəl, -shən-əl/ *adj* (1806) 1 *a*: of or relating to a section *b*: local or regional rather than general in character (~ interests) 2: consisting of or divided into sections (~ furniture) — **section-ally** \-ē-əl/ *adv*

sectional *n* (1901): a piece of furniture made up of modular units capable of use separately or in various combinations

section-al-ism \sek-shən-əl-iz-əm, -shən-əl-iz-əm/ *n* (1855): an exaggerated devotion to the interests of a region

Section Eight *n* [Section VIII, Army Regulation 615-360, in effect from December 1922 to July 1944] (1945) 1: a discharge from the U.S. Army for military inaptitude or undesirable habits or traits of character 2: a soldier discharged for military inaptitude or undesirable habits or traits of character

section gang *n* (1890): a crew of track workers employed to maintain a railroad section

section hand *n* (1873): a laborer belonging to a section gang

sec-tor \sek-tər, -t(ə)r/ *n* [LL, fr. L, cutter, fr. *sectus*, pp. of *secare* to cut — more at **SAW**] (1570) 1 *a*: a geometric figure bounded by two radii and the included arc of a circle *b* (1): a subdivision of a defensive military position (2): a portion of a military front or area of operation 2: a mathematical instrument consisting of two rulers connected at one end by a joint and marked with several scales 3: a distinctive part (as of an economy)

sec-tor \sek-tər/ *vi* **sec-tored**; **sec-tor-ing** \-t(ə-)rɪŋ/ (1884): to divide into or furnish with sectors

sec-to-ri-al \sek-'tōr-ē-əl, -t(ə)r-əl/ *adj* (1803) 1: of, relating to, or having the shape of a sector of a circle 2 *a*: *chimera*: having a sector of variant growth interposed in an otherwise normal body of tissue

sec-ular \sek-yə-lər/ *adj* [ME, fr. OF *seculer*, fr. LL *saecularis*, fr. L, coming once in an age, fr. *saeculum* breed, generation; akin to L *serere* to sow — more at **SOW**] (13c) 1 *a*: of or relating to the worldly or temporal (~ concerns) *b*: not overtly or specif. religious (~ music) *c*: not ecclesiastical or clerical (~ courts) (~ landowners) 2: not bound by monastic vows or rules; *specif*: of, relating to, or forming clergy not belonging to a religious order or congregation (*a* ~ priest) 3 *a*: occurring once in an age or a century *b*: existing or continuing through ages or centuries *c*: of or relating to a long term of indefinite duration — **sec-ular-i-ty** \sek-yə-'lar-ə-tē/ *n* — **sec-ular-ly** \sek-yə-'lar-ē/ *adv*

secular *n*, *pl* seculars or secular (13c) 1: a secular ecclesiastic (as a diocesan priest) 2: **LAYMAN**

sec-ular-ism \sek-yə-lə-,riz-əm/ *n* (1851): indifference to or rejection or exclusion of religion and religious considerations — **sec-ular-ist** \-rast/ *n* — **secularist** or **sec-ular-is-tic** \sek-yə-lə-'ris-tik/ *adj*

sec-ular-ize \sek-yə-lə-,riz/ *vi* -ized; -iz-ing (1611) 1: to make secular 2: to transfer from ecclesiastical to civil or lay use, possession, or control 3: to convert to or imbue with secularism — **sec-ular-iza-tion** \sek-yə-lə-rə-'zā-shən/ *n* — **sec-ular-iz-er** *n*

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tiously : BOAST (~ a new hat) 2 [sport]: to put forth as a sport or bud variation

sport *n* (15c) 1 a: a source of diversion : RECREATION b: sexual play c (1): physical activity engaged in for pleasure (2): a particular activity (as hunting or an athletic game) so engaged in 2 a: PLEASANTRY, JEST b: MOCKERY, DERISION 3 a: something tossed or driven about in or as if in play b: LAUGHINGSTOCK 4 a: SPORTSMAN b: a person living up to the ideals of sportsmanship (a good ~ about losing) c: a companionable person 5: an individual exhibiting a sudden deviation from type beyond the normal limits of individual variation usu. as a result of mutation esp. of somatic tissue *syn* see FUN

sport or sports *adj* (1582): of, relating to, or suitable for sports (~ equipment); *esp*: styled in a manner suitable for casual or informal wear (~ coats)

sport fish *n* (1944): a fish important for the sport it affords anglers

sport-fish-er-man \ˈspɔrt-fish-ər-mən, ˈspɔrt- n (1967): a motorboat equipped for sportfishing

sport-fish-ing \-fish-ɪŋ/ *n* (1946): fishing done with a rod and reel for sport or recreation

sport-ful \-fəl/ *adj* (15c) 1 a: productive of sport or amusement : ENTERTAINING, DIVERTING b: PLAYFUL, FROLIC SOME 2: done in sport — **sport-ful-ly** \-fəl-lē/ *adv* — **sport-ful-ness** *n*

sport-ing \ˈspɔrt-ɪŋ, ˈspɔrt-ɪ/ *adj* (1867) 1 a: used or suitable for sport b: marked by or calling for sportsmanship c: involving such risk as a sports contender may expect to take or encounter (a ~ chance) 2: of or relating to dissipation and esp. gambling 3: tending to mutate freely — **sport-ing-ly** \-ɪŋ-lē/ *adv*

sporting house *n* (1891): BROTHEL

sport-ive \-ɪv/ *adj* (1590) 1 a: FROLIC SOME, PLAYFUL b: ARDENT, WANTON 2: of or relating to sports and esp. field sports — **sport-ive-ly** *adv* — **sport-ive-ness** *n*

sports car *n* (1932): a low comparatively small usu. 2-passenger automobile designed for quick response, easy maneuverability, and high-speed driving

sports-cast \ˈspɔ(ə)rt-skast, ˈspɔ(ə)rt- n [sport + broadcast] (1941): a radio or television broadcast of a sports event or of information about sports — **sports-cast-er** \-skas-tər/ *n*

sports-man \ˈspɔ(ə)rt-smən, ˈspɔ(ə)rt- n (1706) 1: one who engages in sports and esp. in hunting and fishing 2: a person who is fair, generous, a good loser, and a gracious winner — **sports-man-like** \-lɪk/ *adj* — **sports-man-ly** \-lɪ/ *adj*

sports-man-ship \-ʃɪp/ *n* (1745): conduct becoming to a sportsman

sports-wear \ˈspɔ(ə)rt-swa(ə)r, ˈspɔ(ə)rt-, ˈswe(ə)r/ *n* (1912): clothing suitable for recreation

sports-wom-an \-swʊm-ən/ *n* (1754): a woman who engages in sports and esp. outdoor sports

sports-writ-er \ˈspɔ(ə)rts-rɪt-ər, ˈspɔ(ə)rts- n (1901): one who writes about sports esp. for a newspaper — **sports-writ-ing** \-ɪŋ/ *n*

sporty \ˈspɔrt-ɪ, ˈspɔrt-ɪ/ *adj* **sport-i-er**; **-est** (1889) 1: characteristic of a sport or sportsman : SPORTSMANLIKE 2 a: notably loose or dissipated : FAST b: FLASHY, SHOWY (~ clothes) 3: capable of giving good sport (a ~ boat) 4: SPORT — **sport-i-ly** \ˈspɔrt-lē, ˈspɔrt-ɪ/ *adv* — **sport-i-ness** \ˈspɔrt-ɪ-nəs, ˈspɔrt-ɪ/ *n*

spor-u-late \ˈspɔr-(y)ə-lāt, ˈspɔr- v **-lat-ed**; **-lat-ing** [back-formation fr. *sporulation*] (ca. 1891): to undergo sporulation

spor-u-lation \ˈspɔr-(y)ə-lā-shən, ˈspɔr- n [ISV, fr. NL *sporula*, dim. of *spora* spore] (1876): the formation of spores; *esp*: division into many small spores (as after encystment) — **spor-u-la-tive** \ˈspɔr-(y)ə-lāt-ɪv, ˈspɔr- n *adj*

-spor-ry \ˈspɔr-ē, ˈspɔr-; s-pə-rē/ *n comb form* [-sporous + -y]: quality or state of having (such) spores (homospory)

spot \ˈspɔt/ *n* [ME; akin to MD *spotte* stain, speck, ON *spotti* small piece] (13c) 1: a taint on character or reputation : FAULT (the only ~ on the family name) 2 a: a small area visibly different (as in color, finish, or material) from the surrounding area b (1): an area marred or marked (as by dirt) (2): a circumscribed surface lesion of disease (as measles) or decay (~s of rot) (~rust ~s on a leaf) c: a conventionalized design used on playing cards to distinguish suits and indicate values 3: an object having a specified number of spots or a specified numeral on its surface 4: a small quantity or amount : BIT 5 a: a particular place, area, or part b: a small extent of space 6 *pl usu* **spot**: a small croaker (*Leiostomus xanthurus*) of the Atlantic coast with a black spot behind the shoulders 7 a: a particular position (as in an organization or a hierarchy) b: a place or appearance on an entertainment program 8: SPOTLIGHT 9: a position usu. of difficulty or embarrassment 10: a brief announcement or advertisement broadcast between scheduled radio or television programs 11: a brief segment or report on a broadcast esp. of news — **on the spot** 1: at once : IMMEDIATELY 2: at the place of action 3 a: in a responsible or accountable position b: in a difficult or trying situation

spot vb spot-fed; spot-ting *vt* (15c) 1: to stain the character or reputation of : DISGRACE 2: to mark in or with a spot : STAIN 3: to locate or identify by a spot 4 a: to single out : IDENTIFY; *esp*: to note as a known criminal or a suspicious person b: DETECT, NOTICE (~ a mistake) c (1): to locate accurately (~ an enemy position) (2): to cause to strike accurately (~ the battery's fire) 5 a: to lie at intervals in or over : STUD b: to place at intervals or in a desired spot (~ field telephones) c: to fix in or as if in the beam of a spotlight d: to schedule in a particular spot or at a particular time 6: to remove a spot from 7: to allow as a handicap ~ *vi* 1: to become stained or discolored in spots 2: to cause a spot 3: to act as a spotter; *esp*: to locate targets — **spot-table** \ˈspɔt-ə-bəl/ *adj*

spot *adj* (1881) 1 a: being, originating, or done on the spot or in or for a particular spot (~ coverage of the news) b: available for immediate delivery after sale (~ commodities) c (1): paid out upon delivery (~ cash) (2): involving immediate cash payment (~ transaction) d (1): broadcast between scheduled programs (~ announcements) (2): originating in a local station for a national advertiser e: performing occasionally when needed (chance of making the ... varsity as a ~ starter and relief pitcher — *N.Y. Times*) 2: made at random or restricted to a few places or instances (a ~ check); *also*: selected at random or as a sample

spot-check \ˈspɔt-ˌtʃek/ *vt* (1943): to sample or investigate quickly or at random ~ *vi*: to make a spot check

spot-less \ˈspɔt-ləs/ *adj* (14c): having no spot; a: free from impurity : IMMACULATE (~ kitchens) b: PURE, UNBLEMISHED (~ reputation) — **spot-less-ly** *adv* — **spot-less-ness** *n*

spot-light \ˈspɔt-lɪt/ *n* (1912) 1 a: a projected spot of light used to illuminate brilliantly a person, object, or group on a stage b: conspicuous public notice (held the political ~) 2 a: a light designed to direct a narrow intense beam of light on a small area b: something that illuminates brilliantly

spotlight *vt* (1922): to illuminate with or as if with a spotlight

spot pass *n* (ca. 1948): a pass (as in football or basketball) made to a predetermined spot on the field or court rather than directly to a player

spot-ted \ˈspɔt-əd/ *adj* (13c) 1: marked with spots 2: being sullied : TARNISHED 3: characterized by the appearance of spots

spotted alfalfa aphid *n* (1958): a highly destructive Old World aphid (*Therioaphis maculata*) that is established in the U.S. from coast to coast in warmer areas and that injects a toxic saliva in feeding esp. on alfalfa and causes yellowing and stunting of affected plants

spotted cucumber beetle *n* (1923): a rather slender greenish yellow beetle (*Diabrotica undecimpunctata howardi*) that feeds as an adult on various ornamental and crop plants and is a vector of wilt disease esp. of cucumbers and melons

spotted fever *n* (1650): any of various eruptive fevers: as a: TYPHUS b: ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER

spotted salamander *n* (ca. 1922): a common No. American salamander (*Ambystoma maculatum*) with glossy black skin spotted with yellow or orange on the back

spotted sea trout *n* (ca. 1902): a weakfish (*Cynoscion nebulosus*) that is a valuable food and sport fish of the southern Atlantic and Gulf coasts of the U.S. — called also *sea trout*, *speckled trout*, *spotted weakfish*

spot-ter \ˈspɔt-ər/ *n* (ca. 1611) 1: one that makes or applies a spot (as for identification) 2: one that looks or keeps watch: as a: one that locates enemy targets b: a civilian who watches for approaching airplanes 3: one that removes spots 4: one that places something on or in a desired spot

spot test *n* (ca. 1928) 1: a test conducted on the spot to yield immediate results 2: a test limited to a few key or sample points or a relatively small percentage of random spots

spot-ty \ˈspɔt-ɪ/ *adj* **spot-ti-er**; **-est** (14c) 1: marked with spots : SPOTTED 2: lacking uniformity esp. in quality (the performance was ~); *also*: irregularly or sparsely distributed (~ attendance) (~ data) — **spot-ti-ly** \ˈspɔt-lē/ *adv* — **spot-ti-ness** \ˈspɔt-ɪ-nəs/ *n*

spou-sal \ˈspəʊ-zəl, -səl/ *n* [ME *spousaille*, fr. MF *espousailles* espousal] (14c): NUPTIALS — usu. used in pl.

spouse \ˈspəʊz/ *n* [ME, fr. OF *espous* (masc.) & *espouse* (fem.), fr. L *sponsus* betrothed man, groom & *sponsa* betrothed woman, bride, both fr. *sponsus*, pp. of *spondere* to promise, betroth; akin to Gk *spendin* to make a libation, promise, *spondē* libation (pl., treaty)] (13c): married person : HUSBAND, WIFE — **spou-sal** \ˈspəʊ-zəl, -səl/ *adj*

spouse \ˈspəʊz, ˈspəʊz/ *vt* **spoused**; **spousing** *archaic* (13c): WED

spout \ˈspəʊt/ *vb* [ME *spouten*; akin to MD *spouten* to spout, OE *spīwan* to spew] *vt* (14c) 1: to eject (as liquid) in a stream (wells ~ing oil) 2 a: to speak or utter readily, volubly, and at length b: to speak or utter in a pompous or oratorical manner : DECLAIM ~ *vi* 1: to issue with force or in a jet : SPURT 2: to eject material (as liquid) in a jet 3: DECLAIM — **spout-er** *n*

spout *n* (14c) 1: a pipe or conductor through which a liquid is discharged or conveyed in a stream: as a: a pipe for carrying rainwater from a roof b: a projecting tube or lip from which water issues 2: a discharge or jet of liquid from or as if from a pipe; *esp*: WATERSPOUT 3 *archaic*: PAWNSHOP — **spout-ed** \ˈspəʊt-əd/ *adj*

sprach-ge-fühl \ˈʃpræk-kə-fuəl/ *n* [G, fr. *sprache* language (fr. OHG *sprāha*; akin to OE *spræc* speech) + *gefühl* feeling — more at SPEECH] (1904) 1: sensibility to conformity with or divergence from the established usage of a language 2: a feeling for what is linguistically effective or appropriate

sprag \ˈspræg/ *n* [perh. of Scand origin; akin to Sw dial. *spragge* branch] (1878): a pointed stake or steel bar let down from a halted vehicle (as a wagon) to prevent it from rolling

sprain \ˈspræn/ *n* [origin unknown] (1601) 1: a sudden or violent twist or wrench of a joint with stretching or tearing of ligaments 2: a sprained condition

sprain *vt* (1622): to subject to sprain

sprang \ˈspræŋ/ *past* of SPRING

sprang *n* [prob. fr. Norw. *tatting*, fr. ON, lace-weaving, fr. MD *sprank* ornament; akin to OE *spranca* twig and prob. to OE *springan* to spring] (1951): a weaving technique in which threads or cords are intertwined and twisted over one another to form an openwork mesh

sprat \ˈsprat/ *n* [alter. of ME *sprot*, fr. OE *sprot*] (1597) 1: a small European herring (*Clupea sprattus*) closely related to the common herring; *also*: a small or young herring or similar fish (as an anchovy) 2: a young, small, or insignificant person

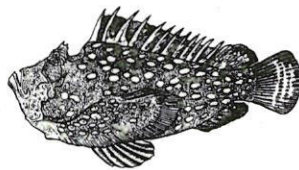
sprawl \ˈsprɔl/ *vb* [ME *sprawlen*, fr. OE *spreawlian*; akin to OE *sprutan* to sprout — more at SPROUT] *vi* (bef. 12c) 1 a *archaic*: to lie thrashing or tossing about b: to creep or clamber awkwardly 2: to lie or sit with arms and legs spread out 3: to spread or develop irregularly ~ *vt*: to cause to spread out carelessly or awkwardly — **sprawl** *n*

spray \ˈspræ/ *n* [ME] (13c) 1: a usu. flowering branch or shoot 2: a decorative flat arrangement of flowers and foliage (as on a coffin) 3: something (as a jeweled pin) resembling a spray

spray *n* [obs. E *spray* (to sprinkle), fr. MD *sprey*; akin to Gk *speirein* to scatter — more at SPROUT] (1621) 1: water flying in small drops or particles blown from waves or thrown up by a waterfall 2 a: a jet of vapor or finely divided liquid b: a device (as an atomizer or sprayer) by which a spray is dispersed or applied c (1): an application of a

\ə/abut \ʌ/ kitten, F table \ər/ further \ə/ ash \ā/ ace \ä/ cot, cart
\au/ out \ch/ chin \e/ bet \ē/ easy \g/ go \i/ hit \i/ ice \j/ job
\ŋ/ sing \ō/ go \ō/ law \ōi/ boy \th/ thin \th/ the \ü/ loot \ü/ foot
 \y/ yet \zh/ vision \ä, k, ʰ, æ, œ, ū, ʷ, ʸ see Guide to Pronunciation

sto-mate \stō-māt\ *n* [irreg. fr. NL *stomat-*, *stoma*] (1835): STOMA 2.
sto-ma-ti-tis \stō-mā-tīt-əs\ *n*, *pl* -ti-tis-des \-tīt-ə-dēz\ or -ti-tis-es \-tīt-ə-səz\ [NL] (1859): any of numerous inflammatory diseases of the mouth.
sto-mato-pod \stō-mat-ə-pād\ *n* [NL *Stomatopoda*, fr. *stomat-* + *-poda*] (1877): any of an order (Stomatopoda) of marine crustaceans (as a squilla) that have gills on the abdominal appendages — **stomatopod** *adj*.
sto-mo-dae-um or **sto-mo-de-um** \stō-mō-dē-əm\ *n*, *pl* -dae-a \-dē-ə\ or -dea [NL, fr. *stom-* + Gk *hodaion*, neut. of *hodaia* being on the way, fr. *hodos* way — more at CEDE] (1876): the anterior ectodermal part of the alimentary canal or tract — **sto-mo-dae-al** or **sto-mo-de-al** \-dē-əl\ *adj*.
stomp \stāmp, stōmp\ *vb* (ca. 1828): STAMP.
stomp *n* (ca. 1899): 1: STAMP 4: 2: a jazz dance marked by heavy stamping.
-sto-my \s-tō-mē\ *n* *comb form* [ISV, fr. Gk *stoma* mouth, opening]: surgical operation establishing a usu. permanent opening into (such) a part (enterostomy).
stone \stōn\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *stān*; akin to OHG *stein* stone, Gk *stear* hard fat] (bef. 12c): 1: a concretion of earthy or mineral matter: a (1): such a concretion of indeterminate size or shape (2): ROCK b: a piece of rock for a specified function: as (1): a building block (2): a paving block (3): a precious stone: GEM (4): GRAVESTONE (5): GRINDSTONE (6): WHETSTONE (7): a surface upon which a drawing, text, or design to be lithographed is drawn or transferred 2: something resembling a small stone: as a: CALCULUS 3a: b: the hard central portion of a drupaceous fruit (as a peach) c: a hard stony seed (as of a date) 3 *pl* *usu* stone: any of various units of weight; esp.: an official British unit equal to 14 pounds (6.3 kilograms) 4 a: CURLING STONE b: a round playing piece used in various games (as backgammon or go) 5: a stand or table with a smooth flat top on which to impose or set type.
stone *adj* (bef. 12c): 1: of, relating to, or made of stone 2: ABSOLUTE, UTTER (pure ~ craziness—Edwin Shrake).
stone *vi* **stoned**; **stoning** (13c): 1: to hurl stones at; esp.: to kill by pelting with stones 2 *archaic*: to make hard or insensitive to feeling 3: to face, pave, or fortify with stones 4: to remove the stones or seeds of (a fruit) 5 a: to rub, scour, or polish with a stone b: to sharpen with a whetstone — **stoner** *n*.
stone *adv* (13c): ENTIRELY, UTTERLY — used as an intensive; often used in combination (stone-broke) (stone-cold soup) (stone-dead).
Stone Age *n* (1864): the first known period of prehistoric human culture characterized by the use of stone tools.
stone-blind \stōn-ˈblind\ *adj* (14c): totally blind.
stone canal *n* (1887): a tube in many echinoderms that contains calcareous deposits and leads from the ring of the water-vascular system surrounding the mouth to the madreporite.
stone cell *n* (1884): a more or less spherical sclereid.
stone-chat \-ˈchat\ *n* [ˈchat] (ca. 1783): a common European songbird (*Saxicola torquata*); also: any of various related birds (genus *Saxicola*).
stone china *n* (1823): a hard dense opaque feldspathic pottery developed in England; broadly: IRONSTONE CHINA.
stone-cold \stōn-ˈkōld\ *adv* (1592): ABSOLUTELY, COMPLETELY (~ sober).
stone crab *n* (1709): a large edible crab (*Menippe mercenaria*) found on the southern coast of the U.S. and in the Caribbean area.
stone-crop \stōn-ˈkrāp\ *n* (bef. 12c): 1: SEDUM; esp.: a mossy evergreen creeping sedum (*Sedum acre*) with pungent fleshy leaves 2: any of various plants of the orpine family related to the sedums.
stone-cutter \-ˈkāt-ər\ *n* (1540): 1: one that cuts, carves, or dresses stone 2: a machine for dressing stone — **stone-cutting** \-ˈkāt-ɪŋ\ *n*.
stoned \stōnd\ *adj* (1952): 1: DRUNK 2: being under the influence of a drug (as marijuana) taken esp. for pleasure: HIGH.
stone-deaf \-ˈdef\ *adj* (1837): totally deaf.
stone-fish \stōn-ˈfɪʃ\ *n* (1896): any of several small spiny venomous scorpion fishes (esp. genus *Synanceja*) common about coral reefs of the tropical Indo-Pacific.
stone fly *n* (15c): an insect (order Plecoptera) with an aquatic carnivorous nymph having gills and an adult used by anglers for bait.
stone fruit *n* (1523): a fruit with a stony endocarp: DRUPE.
stone-ground \stōn-ˈgraʊnd\ *adj* (1905): ground in a buhrstone mill (~ flour).
stone-mason \stōn-ˈmās-ən\ *n* (1758): a mason who builds with stone — **stone-mason-ry** \-rē\ *n*.
stone parsley *n* (1548): a slender herb (*Sison amomum*) of the carrot family with aromatic seeds that are used as a condiment.
stone roller *n* (1882): 1: HOG SUCKER 2: a common cyprinid fish (*Camptostoma anomalum*) found esp. in clear streams of the central U.S.
stone's throw *n* (1581): a short distance (lives within a stone's throw of town).
stone-wall \stōn-ˈwɔl, -ˈwəl\ *vi* (1889): 1 *chiefly Brit*: to engage in obstructive parliamentary debate or delaying tactics 2: to be uncooperative, obstructive, or evasive ~ *vt*: to refuse to comply or cooperate with — **stone-wall-er** *n*.
stone wall *n* (bef. 12c): 1: a fence made of stones; esp.: one built of rough stones without mortar to enclose a field 2: an immovable block or obstruction (as in public affairs).
stone-ware \-ˈwə(ə)r, -ˈwɛ(ə)r\ *n* (1683): a strong opaque ceramic ware that is high-fired, well vitrified, and nonporous.
stone-work \-ˈwɜrk\ *n* (bef. 12c): 1: a structure or part built of stone: MASONRY 2: the shaping, preparation, or setting of stone.
stone-wort \-ˈwɜrt, -ˈwɔ(ə)r\ *n* (ca. 1816): any of a family (Characeae) of freshwater green algae resembling the horsetails and often encrusted with calcareous deposits.
stony also **stone-ey** \stō-nē\ *adj* **stoni-er**; **-est** (bef. 12c): 1: abounding in or having the nature of stone: ROCKY 2 a: insensitive to pity or human feeling b: manifesting no movement or reaction: DUMB. EX-



stonefish

PRESSIONLESS *c*: fearfully gripping: PETRIFYING 3 *archaic*: consisting of or made of stones 4: stone-broke — **ston-ily** \stōn-ˈlē\ *adv* — **stoni-ness** \stōn-ˈnəs\ *n*.
stony-hearted \stō-nē-ˈhārt-əd\ *adj* (1569): UNFEELING, CRUEL.
stood *past* and *past part* of STAND.
stooge \stūj\ *n* [origin unknown] (ca. 1913): 1 a: one who plays a subordinate or compliant role to a principal b: PUPPET 3 2: STRAIGHT MAN 3: STOOL PIGEON.
stooge *vi* **stooged**; **stooging** (1946): to act as a stooge (congressmen who ~ for the oil and mineral interests — *New Republic*).
stool \stūl\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *stōl*; akin to OHG *stūol* chair, OSlov *stolū* seat, throne, OE *stāndan* to stand] (bef. 12c): 1 a: a seat usu. without back or arms supported by three or four legs or by a central pedestal b: a low bench or portable support for the feet or knees: FOOT-STOOL 2: a seat used as a symbol of office or authority; also: the rank, dignity, office, or rule of a chieftain 3 a: a seat used while defecating or urinating b: a discharge of fecal matter 4 a: a stump or group of stumps of a tree esp. when producing suckers b: a plant crown from which shoots grow out c: a shoot or growth from a stool 5: STOOL PIGEON.
stool *vi* (1770): to throw out shoots in the manner of a stool.
stoolie \stū-lē\ *n* (1937): STOOL PIGEON 2.
stool pigeon *n* [prob. fr. the early practice of fastening the decoy bird to a stool] (1836): 1: a pigeon used as a decoy to draw others within a net 2: a person acting as a decoy or informer; esp.: a spy sent into a group to report (as to the police) on its activities.
stoop \stūp\ *vb* [ME *stoupen*, fr. OE *stūpian*; akin to OE *steap* steep, deep — more at STEEP] *vi* (bef. 12c): 1 a: to bend the body forward and downward sometimes simultaneously bending the knees b: to stand or walk with a forward inclination of the head, body, or shoulders 2: YIELD, SUBMIT 3 a: to descend from a superior rank, dignity, or status b: to lower oneself morally 4 a *archaic*: to move down from a height: ALIGHT b: to fly or dive down swiftly usu. to attack prey ~ *vt*: 1: DEBASE, DEGRADE 2: to bend (a part of the body) forward and downward.
stoop *n* (1571): 1 a: an act of bending the body forward b: a temporary or habitual forward bend of the back and shoulders 2: the descent of a bird esp. on its prey 3: a lowering of oneself.
stoop *n* [D *stoep*; akin to OE *stæpe* step — more at STEP] (1755): a porch, platform, entrance stairway, or small veranda at a house door.
stoop-ball \stūp-ˈbɔl\ *n* (1945): a variation of baseball in which a player throws a ball against a stoop or building and runs to base while other players attempt to retrieve the rebound and put him out.
stoop labor *n* (1949): the hard labor done or required to plant, cultivate, and harvest a crop and esp. a crop of vegetables.
stop \stɒp\ *vb* **stopped**; **stop-ping** [ME *stoppen*, fr. OE *-stoppan*, fr. (assumed) VL *stappare* to stop with tow, fr. L *stappa* tow, fr. Gk *styppe*] *vt* (bef. 12c): 1 a: to close by filling or obstructing b: to hinder or prevent the passage of c: to get in the way of: be wounded or killed by (easy to ~ a bullet along a lonely road — Harvey Ferguson) 2 a: to close up or block off (an opening): PLUG b: to make impassable: CHOKE, OBSTRUCT c: to cover over or fill in (a hole or crevice) 3 a: to cause to give up or change a course of action b: HOLD BACK, RESTRAIN, PREVENT 4 a: to cause to cease: CHECK, SUPPRESS b: to DISCONTINUE 5 a: to deduct or withhold (a sum due) b: to instruct one's bank to refuse (payment) or refuse payment of (as a check) 6 a: to arrest the progress or motion of: cause to halt (stopped the car) b: PARRY c: to check by means of a weapon: BRING DOWN, KILL d: to beat in a boxing match by a knockout; broadly: DEFEAT e: BAFFLE, NONPLUS 7: to change the pitch of (as a violin string) by pressing with the finger or (as a wind instrument) by closing one or more finger holes or by thrusting the hand or a mute into the bell 8: to hold an honor card and enough protecting cards to be able to block (a bridge suit) before an opponent can run many tricks ~ *vi*: 1 a: to cease activity or operation b: to come to an end esp. suddenly: CLOSE, FINISH 2 a: to cease to move on: HALT b: PAUSE, HESITATE 3 a: to break one's journey: STAY b *chiefly Brit*: REMAIN c: to make a brief call: drop in 4: to become choked: CLOG — **stop-pa-ble** \stɒp-ə-ˈbəl\ *adj*.
syn STOP, CEASE, QUIT, DISCONTINUE, DESIST mean to suspend or cause to suspend activity. STOP applies to action or progress or to what is operating or progressing and may imply suddenness or definiteness (stopped at the red light) CEASE applies to states, conditions, or existence and may add a suggestion of gradualness and a degree of finality (by nightfall the fighting had ceased) QUIT may stress either finality or abruptness in stopping or ceasing (the engine faltered, sputtered, then quit altogether) DISCONTINUE applies to the stopping of an accustomed activity or practice (we have discontinued the manufacture of that item) DESIST implies forbearance or restraint as a motive for stopping or ceasing (desisted from further efforts to persuade them).
stop *n* (15c): 1 a: CESSATION, END b: a pause or breaking off in speech 2 a (1): a graduated set of organ pipes of similar design and tone quality (2): a corresponding set of vibrators or reeds of a reed organ (3): STOP KNOB b: a means of regulating the pitch of a musical instrument 3 a: something that impedes, obstructs, or brings to a halt: IMPEDIMENT, OBSTACLE b: the aperture of a camera lens; also: a marking of a series (as of f-numbers) on a camera for indicating settings of the diaphragm c: a drain plug: STOPPER 4: a device for arresting or limiting motion 5: the act of stopping: the state of being stopped: CHECK 6 a: a halt in a journey: STAY (made a brief ~ to refuel) b: a stopping place (a bus ~) 7 a *chiefly Brit*: any of several punctuation marks b — used in telegrams and cables to indicate a period c: a pause or break in a verse that marks the end of a grammatical unit 8 a: an order stopping payment (as of a check or note) by a bank b: STOP ORDER 9: a consonant in the articulation of which there is a stage (as in the *p* of *apt* or the *g* of *tiger*) when the breath passage is

\ə\ abut \ʌ\ kitten, F table \ər\ further \ə\ ash \ā\ ace \ä\ cot, cart
 \aʊ\ out \ch\ chin \e\ bet \ē\ easy \ē\ go \i\ hit \i\ ice \j\ job
 \ŋ\ sing \ō\ go \ō\ law \ōi\ boy \th\ thin \th\ the \ü\ loot \ü\ foot
 \y\ yet \zh\ vision \ä, k, p, æ, œ, ue, ü, see Guide to Pronunciation