

haptic adjective

hap-tic 'hap-tik ⓘ

- : relating to or based on the sense of touch
- : characterized by predilection for the sense of touch
haptic perception



Haptic felt its way into English in the 19th century as a back-formation of [haptics](#), a noun which was borrowed from the New Latin *haptice* (meaning "science of touch," and derived ultimately from the Greek *haptesthai*, meaning "to touch") in the 1700s. *Haptic* was originally a medical synonym for [tactile](#). By the 20th century, it had developed a psychological sense, describing individuals whose perception supposedly depended primarily on touch rather than sight. Although almost no one today divides humans into haptic and visual personalities, English retains the broadened psychological sense of *haptic* as well as the older "tactile" sense.



the verge to e u s

The DualSense Edge has a leg up over the competition thanks to the *haptic* feedback and adjustable triggers like those found on the PS VR controller

— Popular Mechanics, 29 Aug. 2023

Minuteman I thought that turned to *haptic* technology the application of force and vibration to imitate tactile experience

— Roger Caton, Smithsonian Magazine, 12 May 2023

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Etymology

back-formation from [HAPTIC](#)

First Known Use

1860, in the meaning defined at [sense 1](#)

Time Traveler



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haptic adjective

h p ti 'h p tik

variants also **haptical** -ti-kəl

- 1** : relating to or based on the sense of touch
the *haptic* mode of perception
— Co n Gordon
- 2** : characterized by a predilection for the sense of touch
a *haptic* person

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