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between

15 ENTRIES FOUND:

between
between decks
between the sheets

'be-tween preposition \bi-ˈtwēn, bē-\

Definition of BETWEEN

- a** : by the common action of : jointly engaging <shared the work *between* the two of them> <talks *between* the three — *Time*>
b : in common to : shared by <divided *between* his four grandchildren>
- a** : in the time, space, or interval that separates
b : in intermediate relation to
- a** : from one to another of <air service *between* Miami and Chicago>
b : serving to connect or unite in a relationship (as difference, likeness, or proportion) <a one-to-one correspondence *between* sets>
c : setting apart <the line *between* fact and fancy>
- a** : in preference for one or the other of <had no difficulty deciding *between* the two>
b : in point of comparison of <not much to choose *between* the two coats>
- : in confidence restricted to <a secret *between* you and me>
- : taking together the combined effect of <*between* work and family life, they have no time for hobbies>
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Usage Discussion of BETWEEN

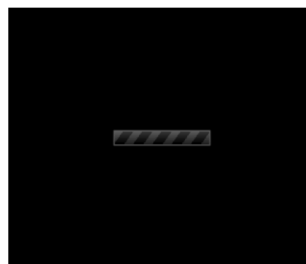
There is a persistent but unfounded notion that *between* can be used only of two items and that *among* must be used for more than two. *Between* has been used of more than two since Old English; it is especially appropriate to denote a one-to-one relationship, regardless of the number of items. It can be used when the number is unspecified <economic cooperation *between* nations>, when more than two are enumerated <*between* you and me and the lamppost> <partitioned *between* Austria, Prussia, and Russia — Nathaniel Benchley>, and even when only one item is mentioned (but repetition is implied) <pausing *between* every sentence to rap the floor — George Eliot>. *Among* is more appropriate where the emphasis is on distribution rather than individual relationships <discontent *among* the peasants>. When *among* is automatically chosen for more than two, English idiom may be strained <a worthy book that nevertheless falls *among* many stools — John Simon> <the author alternates *among* modern slang, clichés and quotes from literary giants — A. H. Johnston>.

Examples of BETWEEN

- The ball rolled *between* the desk and the wall.
- He stood *between* his mother and his father.
- The office has two desks with a table *between* them.
- They put up a fence *between* their house and their neighbor's house.
- There are fences *between* all the houses.
- If you want to lose weight, you shouldn't eat *between* meals.
- Between* bites of food, they talked to their teacher.
- The two days *between* Monday and Thursday are Tuesday and Wednesday.
- We should arrive *between* 9 and 10 o'clock.

Origin of BETWEEN

Middle English *between*, preposition & adverb, from Old



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From Old English *betwene*, preposition; *betwene*, from Old English *betwēonum*, from *be-* + *-twēonum* (dative plural) (akin to Gothic *twēihnai* two each); akin to Old English *twā* two

First Known Use: before 12th century

Rhymes with BETWEEN

Andine, arene, baleen, beguine, Benin, benzene, benzine, Bernstein, black bean, boreen, bovine, broad bean, buckbean, caffeine, canteen, C...

[+] more

between *adverb*

Definition of BETWEEN

: in an intermediate space or interval

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Examples of BETWEEN

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First Known Use of BETWEEN

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