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automatic

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An automatic machine or device is one that has controls that enable it to perform a task without needing to be constantly operated by a person. Automatic methods and processes involve the use of such machines.

Modern trains have automatic doors.

Synonyms: mechanical, robot, automated, mechanized More Synonyms of **automatic**

2. **ADJECTIVE** [ADJ n]

An automatic weapon is one that keeps firing shots until you stop pulling the trigger.

Three gunmen with automatic rifles opened fire.

3. **ADJECTIVE**

An automatic action is one that you do without thinking about it.

All of the automatic body functions, even breathing, are affected.

Synonyms: involuntary, natural, unconscious, mechanical More Synonyms of **automatic**

KITCHEN UTENSILS

Drag the correct answer into the box.

peeler | casserole dish | cake tin | sugar bowl

NEXT

automatically (ɔtəmætɪkli) **ADVERB**

You will automatically wake up after this length of time.

4. COUNTABLE NOUN

An automatic is a car in which the gears change automatically as the car's speed increases or decreases.

More Synonyms of **automatic**

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Video: pronunciation of

automatic

American English pronunciation

British English pronunciation

New collocations added to dictionary

Collocations are words that are often used together and are brilliant at providing natural sounding language for your speech and writing.

FEBRUARY 13, 2020

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automatic

Word Frequency

in American English

(ˌɔtəˈmætɪk)

ADJECTIVE

1. done without conscious thought or volition, as if mechanically
2. involuntary or reflex, as some muscle or gland action
3.
a. moving, operating, etc. by itself; regulating itself
automatic machinery
b. done with automatic equipment
an automatic landing
4. *Firearms*
a. using the force of the explosion of a shell to eject the empty cartridge case, place the next cartridge into the breech, and fire it, so that shots continue in rapid succession until the trigger is released
b. *Nontechnical*
semiautomatic (sense 2)

NOUN

5. an automatic (or, popularly, semiautomatic) firearm
6. any automatic machine
7. an automotive vehicle having a transmission that changes gears automatically

SIMILAR WORDS: spontaneous

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Derived forms

automatically (ˌautoˈmatically) **ADVERB**

Word origin

< Gr *automatos*, self-moving, self-thinking (< *autos*, self + component < IE **mntos*, thinking < base **men-*, to think > mind, memory) + -ic

automatic

Word Frequency

in American English

(ˌɔtəˈmætɪk)

ADJECTIVE

1. having the capability of starting, operating, moving, etc., independently
   an automatic sprinkler system
   an automatic car wash
2. *Physiology*
   occurring independently of volition, as certain muscular actions; involuntary
3. done unconsciously or from force of habit; mechanical
   an automatic application of the brakes
4. occurring spontaneously
   automatic enthusiasm
5. (*of a firearm, pistol, etc.*)
   utilizing the recoil or part of the force of the explosive to eject the spent cartridge shell, introduce a new cartridge, cock the arm, and fire it repeatedly

NOUN

6. a machine that operates automatically
7. See automatic rifle
8. See automatic pistol
9. *American Football* audible (sense 2)
10. See automatic pilot
11. See automatic transmission

12. an automobile equipped with automatic transmission

13. See on automatic

SYNONYMS

2. AUTOMATIC, INVOLUNTARY, SPONTANEOUS all mean not under the control of the will. That which is AUTOMATIC, however, is an invariable reaction to a fixed type of stimulus: *The patella reflex is automatic.* That which is INVOLUNTARY is an unexpected response that varies according to the occasion, circumstances, mood, etc.: *an involuntary cry of pain.* That which is SPONTANEOUS arises from immediate stimuli and usually involves an expression of strong feeling: *a spontaneous roar of laughter.*

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Derived forms

automatically **ADVERB**

automaticity (ˌɔtəməˈtɪsɪti) **NOUN**

Word origin

[1740–50; ‹ Gk *autómat*(*os*) self-moving (see automaton) + -ic]

automatic

Word Frequency

in British English

(ˌɔːtəˈmætɪk)

ADJECTIVE

1. performed from force of habit or without conscious thought; lacking spontaneity; mechanical
   an automatic smile

2.

a. (of a device, mechanism, etc) able to activate, move, or regulate itself

b. (of an act or process) performed by such automatic equipment

3. (of the action of a muscle, gland, etc) involuntary or reflex

4. occurring as a necessary consequence
   promotion is automatic after a year

5. (*of a firearm*)

a. utilizing some of the force of or gas from each explosion to eject the empty shell case, replace it with a new one, and fire continuously until release of the trigger Compare semiautomatic (sense 2)

b. short for semiautomatic (sense 2), See also machine (sense 5)

NOUN

6. an automatic firearm

7. a motor vehicle having automatic transmission

8. a machine that operates automatically

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Derived forms

automatically (ˌautoˈmatically) **ADVERB**

automaticity (ˌɔːtəʊməˈtɪsɪtɪ) **NOUN**

Word origin

C18: from Greek *automatos* acting independently

automatic

Word Frequency

in Automotive Engineering

(ɔ̱təmæ̱tɪk)

Word forms: *(regular plural)* automatics

NOUN

(***Automotive engineering***: *Vehicle types*)

An automatic is a vehicle with automatic transmission.

*If you passed your test in **an automatic**, you must return to do it all over again in a manual car.*

*Since his accident, he drives **an automatic**, which he steers with one arm.*

*Most battery-powered cars operate like **automatics**, so you do not have to operate clutch or gears.*

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Examples of 'automatic' in a sentence

automatic

These examples have been automatically selected and may contain sensitive content that does not reflect the opinions or policies of Collins, or its parent company HarperCollins. We welcome feedback: report an example sentence to the Collins team. Read more...

Pointing fingers at strangers or supposed intruders has become almost an automatic reflex.
THE GUARDIAN (2015)

The idea of automatic citizenship was once fairly uncontroversial.
THE GUARDIAN (2015)

The days of automatic deference are long over.
THE GUARDIAN (2015)

Not that such fawning is an automatic guarantee of success.
THE GUARDIAN (2017)

The ball will be on the one yard line and an automatic first down.
THE GUARDIAN (2019)

Those caught driving above the new threshold will also face automatic penalties.
TIMES, SUNDAY TIMES (2010)

He was an automatic choice before suffering the knock two months ago.
THE SUN (2013)

Rovers are now fourth, still just a point off the three automatic spots.
THE SUN (2016)

I can still drive the automatic chauffeur cars with just one arm.
THE SUN (2015)

Another way to look at it is that one is fairly automatic, and the other requires some manual work.
CHRISTIANITY TODAY (2000)

More idioms containing

automatic

on automatic pilot

Related word partners

automatic

automatic approval
automatic assumption
automatic bid
automatic compensation
automatic detection
automatic enrolment
automatic entry
automatic fire
automatic gate
automatic gunfire

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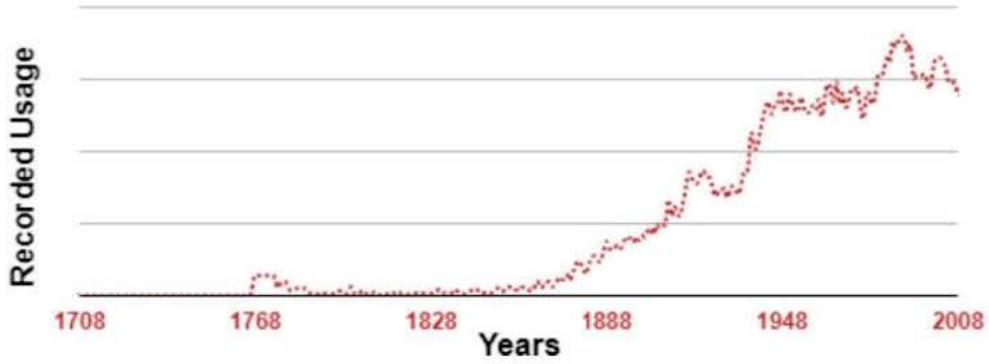
Trends of

automatic

View usage over: Since Exist



In other languages

automatic

British English: automatic /ˌɔːtəˈmætɪk/ adjective

An *automatic* machine or device is one which has controls that enable it to perform a task without needing to be constantly operated by a person.

Modern trains have automatic doors.

American English: automatic /ɔtəˈmætɪk/
Arabic: آلِيّ
Brazilian Portuguese: automático
Chinese: 自动的
Croatian: automatski
Czech: automatický
Danish: automatisk
Dutch: automatisch
European Spanish: automático
Finnish: automaattinen
French: automatique
German: automatisch
Greek: αυτόματος
Italian: automatico
Japanese: 自動的な
Korean: 자동의
Norwegian: automatisk
Polish: automatyczny
European Portuguese: automático
Romanian: automat
Russian: автоматический
Spanish: automático
Swedish: automatisk
Thai: อัตโนมัติ
Turkish: otomatik
Ukrainian: автоматичний
Vietnamese: tự động

Translate your text for free

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automatic

automated trading
automated vehicle
automated voice
automatic
automatic approval
automatic assumption
automatic bid

Related terms of

automatic

automatic bid
on automatic
automatic door
automatic drive
automatic entry

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All ENGLISH words that begin with 'A'

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Quick Word Challenge

Question: 1 - **Score: 0 / 5**

SYNONYMS

Select the synonym for:

consciously

- knowingly
- alas
- infrequently
- inchmeal

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American

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