

< layer

✕

Dictionary

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layer

 1 of 2 **noun**

lay·er ('lā-ər ») ('ler »)

[Synonyms of layer >](#)

- 1** : one that lays something (such as a worker who lays brick or a hen that lays eggs)
- 2 a** : one thickness, course, or fold laid or lying over or under another
b : **STRATUM**
c : **HORIZON sense 2**
- 3 a** : a branch or shoot of a plant that roots while still attached to the parent plant
b : a plant developed by layering

('lā-ərd ») ('lərd ») **adjective**

layer

 2 of 2 **verb****layered; layering; layers***transitive verb*

- 1** : to propagate (a plant) by means of layers
- 2 a** : to place as a layer



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b : to form out of superimposed layers

2 of a plant : to form roots where a stem comes in contact with the ground

Noun

Everything was covered by a thin **layer** of sand.

The top **layer** of the rug is badly worn but the bottom **layer** is still OK.

The cake has three **layers**.

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Each **layer** was filled twice with apricot marmalade and a kirsch flavored Bavarian cream.

— Nicole Brieese, *Peoplemag*, 18 Aug. 2024

Verb

Guests arrived in all-white to tour the three-level home newly **layered** by some 20 interior design firms, including Siriano Interiors, Sarah Tract Interiors, and AD PRO Directory firm Spruce Interior.

— Alia Akkam, *Architectural Digest*, 12 Aug. 2024

Privately held affordable housing Most of California's affordable housing is built today by private developers, both for-profit and nonprofit, which **layer** different sources of public subsidies together, including local bonds, state grants and federal tax credits to finance a project.

— Kate Talerico, *The Mercury News*, 9 Aug. 2024

[See all Example Sentences for layer >](#)

These examples are programmatically compiled from various online sources to illustrate current usage of the word 'layer.' Any opinions expressed in the examples do not represent those of Merriam-Webster or its editors. [Send us feedback](#) about these examples.



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First Known Use

Noun

13th century, in the meaning defined at [sense 1](#)

Verb

1832, in the meaning defined at [transitive sense 1](#)

Time Traveler

The first known use of *layer* was in the 13th century

[See more words from the same century](#)



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palisade layer

sporadic E layer

thin-layer chromatography

lay elder

layer

layer's cramp

See More Nearby Entries >

Style

MLA

"Layer." *Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary*, Merriam-Webster, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/layer>. Accessed 12 Sep. 2024.

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layer

 1 of 2 **noun**lay·er 'lā-ər 'le(-ə)r

- 1** : one that lays
their hens were poor *layers*
- 2** : one thickness or fold over or under another
a *layer* or rock

'lā-ərd 'le(-ə)rd **adjective**

layer

 2 of 2 **verb**

- 1** : to separate into layers
- 2** : to form by adding layers



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2 : STRATUM sense 1the outer *layers* of the skin**verb**Thesaurus: [All synonyms and antonyms for *layer*](#)Nglsh: [Translation of *layer* for Spanish Speakers](#)Britannica English: [Translation of *layer* for Arabic Speakers](#)

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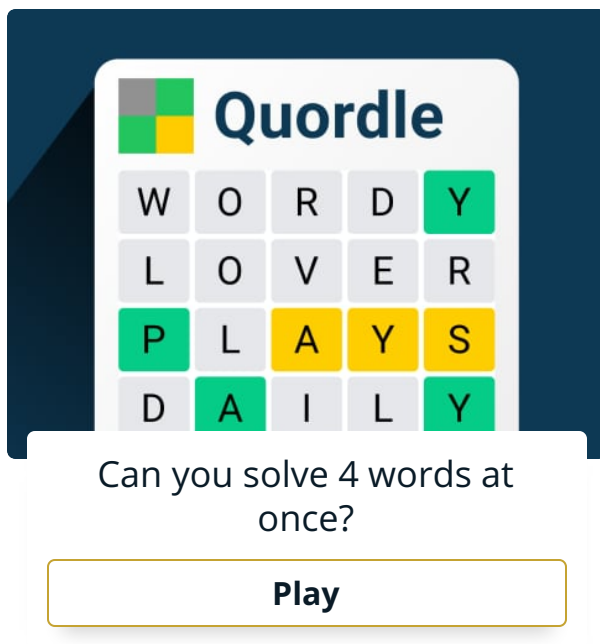
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A daily crossword with a twist

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Farm Idioms Quiz

If you've got a pig in a poke - what exactly is a...

Take the quiz



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