

Webster's
New
Collegiate
Dictionary

A Merriam-Webster®



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New Collegiate Dictionary

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G. & C. MERRIAM COMPANY
Springfield, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

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Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data
Main entry under title:

Webster's new collegiate dictionary.

"Based on Webster's third new international dictionary."

"A Merriam-Webster."

Editions for 1898-1948 have title: Webster's collegiate dictionary; 1949-61 and 1973 editions have title:

Webster's new collegiate dictionary; 1963-72 editions have title: Webster's seventh new collegiate dictionary.

1. English language—Dictionaries.

PE1628.W4M4 1973 423 72-10966

ISBN 0-87779-308-5 (plain)

0-87779-309-3 (indexed)

0-87779-310-7 (Buksyn)

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thing occupies space 5: an increase in length of time; *specif*
 : an increase in time allowed under agreement or concession <was
 granted an ~> 6: a program that geographically extends the
 educational resources of an institution by special arrangements (as
 correspondence courses) to persons otherwise unable to take
 advantage of such resources 7 a: a part constituting an addition
 b: a section forming an additional length c: an extra telephone
 connected to the principal line 8: a mathematical set (as a field
 or group) that includes a given and similar set as a subset
ex-ten-sion-al \ik-'stēn-shən-, 'stēn-shən-'l-ē/ *adj* 1: of, relating
 to, or marked by extension; *specif*: DENOTATIVE 2: concerned
 with objective reality — **ex-ten-sion-al-ity** \stēn-shən-'hāl-ə-tē/ *n*
 — **ex-ten-sion-al-ly** \stēn-shən-'hāl-ē/ *adv*
extension cord *n*: CORD 3b
ex-ten-si-ty \ik-'stēn(t)-sə-tē/ *n*, *pl* -ties 1 a: the quality of
 having extension b: degree of extension: RANGE 2: an attrib-
 ute of sensation whereby space or size is perceived
ex-ten-sive \ik-'stēn(t)-siv/ *adj* 1: EXTENSIONAL 2: having
 wide or considerable extent <~ reading> 3: of, relating to, or
 constituting farming in which large areas of land are utilized with
 minimum outlay and labor — **ex-ten-sive-ly** *adv* — **ex-ten-**
sive-ness *n*
ex-ten-som-e-ter \ek-'stēn-'sūm-ət-ər/ *n* [extension + -o- +
 -meter]: an instrument for measuring minute deformations of test
 specimens caused by tension, compression, bending, or twisting
ex-ten-sor \ik-'stēn(t)-sər/ *n*: a muscle serving to extend a bodily
 part (as a limb)
ex-tent \ik-'stēnt/ *n* [ME, fr. AF & MF; AF *extente* land valuation,
 fr. MF, area, surveying of land, fr. *extendere* to extend] 1 *archaic*
 : valuation (as of land) in Great Britain esp. for taxation 2 a
 : seizure (as of land) in execution of a writ of extent in Great Britain
 : the condition of being so seized b: a writ giving to a creditor
 temporary possession of his debtor's property 3 a: the range
 over which something extends: SCOPE <the ~ of his authority>
 b: the point, degree, or limit to which something extends <using
 talents to the greatest ~> c: the amount of space or surface that
 something occupies or the distance over which it extends
 : MAGNITUDE <the ~ of the forest>
ex-ten-u-ate \ik-'stēn-yə-'wāt/ *vt* -at-ed; -at-ing [L *extenuatus*, pp.
 of *extenuare*, fr. *ex-* + *tenuis* thin — more at THIN] 1 a *archaic*
 : to make light of b: to lessen or to try to lessen the seriousness
 or extent of by making partial excuses: MITIGATE *c* *obs*: DIS-
 PARAGE 2 a *archaic*: to make thin or emaciated b: to lessen the
 strength or effect of — **ex-ten-u-a-tor** \wāt-ər/ *n* — **ex-ten-u-**
a-tory \wāt-ər-ē, -tōr-/ *adj*
ex-ten-u-a-tion \ik-'stēn-yə-'wā-shən/ *n* 1: the act of extenuating
 or state of being extenuated; *esp*: partial justification 2
 : something extenuating; *esp*: a partial excuse
ex-ter-i-or \ek-'stīr-ē-ər/ *adj* [L, compar. of *exter*, *exterus* being on
 the outside, foreign, fr. *ex-*] 1: being on an outside surface
 : situated on the outside 2: observable by outward signs <his ~
 quietness is belied by an occasional nervous twitch — *Current*
Biog.> 3: suitable for use on outside surfaces — **ex-ter-i-or-ly**
adv
2 exterior *n* 1 a: an exterior part or surface: OUTSIDE: out-
 ward manner or appearance 2: a representation of an outdoor
 scene
exterior angle *n* 1: the angle between a side of a polygon and
 an extended adjacent side 2: an angle between a line crossing two
 parallel lines and either of the latter on the outside
ex-ter-i-or-ity \ek-'stīr-ē-'ōr-ə-tē-, 'ār-/ *n*: the quality or state of
 being exterior or exteriorized: EXTERNALITY
ex-ter-i-or-ize \ek-'stīr-ē-'ōr-ə-'īz/ *vt* -ized; -iz-ing 1: EXTERNALIZE
 2: to bring out of the abdomen (as for surgery) — **ex-ter-i-or-**
iza-tion \stīr-ē-'ōr-ə-'īz-ā-shən/ *n*
ex-ter-mi-nate \ik-'stər-mə-'nāt/ *vt* -nat-ed; -nat-ing [L *exter-*
minatus, pp. of *exterminare*, fr. *ex-* + *terminus* boundary — more
 at TERM]: to get rid of completely usu. by killing off <~ crabgrass
 from a lawn> — **ex-ter-mi-na-tion** \stər-mə-'nā-shən/ *n* —
ex-ter-mi-ne-tor \stər-mə-'nāt-ər/ *n*
syn EXTERMINATE, EXTERPATE, ERADICATE, UPROOT *shared meaning*
element: to effect the destruction or abolition of
ex-ter-mi-ne-tory \ik-'stər-mə-'nə-tōr-ē-, -tōr-/ *adj*: of, relating
 to, or marked by extermination
ex-ter-mine \ik-'stər-mən/ *vt* -min-ed; -min-ing *obs*: EXTERMI-
 NATE
ex-tern \ek-'stərn, 'ek-/ *adj* [MF or Li MF *externe*, fr. L *externus*]
archaic: EXTERNAL
2 extern *n* also **ex-terne** \ek-'stərn/ *n*: a person connected with an
 institution but not living or boarding in it; *specif*: a nonresident
 doctor or medical student at a hospital — **ex-tern-ship** \-shīp/ *n*
ex-ter-nal \ek-'stərn-'l-ē/ *adj* [ME, fr. L *externus* external, fr. *exter*]
 1 a: capable of being perceived outwardly <~ signs of a disease>
 <~ reality> b (1): having merely the outward appearance of
 something: SUPERFICIAL (2): not intrinsic or essential <~ cir-
 cumstances> 2 a: of, relating to, or connected with the outside
 or an outer part b: applied or applicable to the outside 3 a (1)
 : situated outside, apart, or beyond; *specif*: situated away from
 the mesial plane (2): arising or acting from outside <~ force>
 b: of or relating to dealings or relationships with foreign countries
 c: having existence independent of the mind <~ reality> —
ex-ter-nal-ly \-l-ē/ *adv*
2 external *n*: something that is external: as a *archaic*: an outer
 part b: an external feature or aspect — usu. used in pl. <the ~s
 of religion>
external-combustion engine *n*: a heat engine (as a steam
 engine) that derives its heat from fuel consumed outside the engine
 cylinder
ex-ter-nal-ism \ek-'stərn-'l-iz-əm/ *n* 1: EXTERNALITY 2: at-
 tention to externals; *esp*: excessive preoccupation with externals
ex-ter-nal-ty \ek-'stərn-'hāl-ə-tē/ *n*, *pl* -ties 1: the quality or
 state of being external or externalized 2: something that is
 external

ex-ter-nal-iza-tion \ek-'stərn-'l-ə-'zā-shən/ *n* 1 a: the actio
 process of externalizing b: the quality or state of being exte-
 rialized 2: something externalized: EMBODIMENT
ex-ter-nal-ize \ek-'stərn-'l-īz/ *vt* -ized; -iz-ing 1: to make exte-
 rior or externally manifest: EMBODY 2: to attribute to causes out-
 side the self: RATIONALIZE <~ his failure>
external respiration *n*: exchange of gases between the exte-
 rior environment and a distal system of the animal body (as
 lungs of higher vertebrates or the tracheal tubes of insects
 between the alveoli of the lungs and the blood)
ex-tero-cep-tive \ek-'stər-ō-'sep-tiv/ *adj* [L *exter* + E -o-
 -ceptive (as in *receptive*): activated by, relating to, or being stir-
 received by an organism from outside
ex-tero-cep-tor \-tər-/ *n* [NL, fr. L *exter* + NL -o- + -ceptor
 in *receptor*]: a sense organ excited by exteroceptive stimuli
ex-ter-i-or-i-al \ek-'stər-ē-'ōr-ē-əl, -tōr-/ *adj*: EXTRATERRESTRI-
 AL — **ex-ter-i-or-i-al-ity** \-tōr-ē-'āl-ə-tē-, -tōr-/ *n*
extg *abbr* extracting
extinct \ik-'stīŋkt/ *adj* [ME, fr. L *extinctus*, pp.
 of *extinguere*] 1 a: no longer burning b: no longer active <an
 volcano> 2: no longer existing <an ~ animal> 3 a: gone
 of use: SUPERSEDED b: having no qualified claimant <an
 title>
2 extinct *vi*, *archaic*: EXTINGUISH
extinc-tion \ik-'stīŋk(t)-shən/ *n* 1: the act of making extinct
 causing to be extinguished 2: the condition or fact of be-
 ing extinct or extinguished 3: the process of eliminating or reduc-
 ing a conditioned response by not reinforcing it
extinc-tive \ik-'stīŋk(t)-tīv/ *adj*: tending or serving to exting-
 uish or make extinct
ex-tin-guish \ik-'stīŋj(ŋ)-wīsh/ *vt* [L *extinguere* (fr. *ex-* + *stingu*
 to extinguish) + E -ish (as in *abolish*); akin to L *instigare* to incite
 — more at STICK] 1 a: to cause to cease burning: QUENCH
 (1): to bring to an end: make an end of <hope for their safe
 was slowly ~ed> (2): to reduce to silence or ineffectiveness
 : to cause extinction of (a conditioned response) d: to dim i
 brightness of: ECLIPSE 2 a: to cause to be void: NULLIFY <~
 claim> b: to get rid of, usu. by payment <~ a debt> *syn* 1:
 CRUSH *ant* inflame 2 *see* ABOLISH — **ex-tin-guish-able** \-ə-b-
 ə-b-əl/ *adj* — **ex-tin-guish-er** \-ər/ *n* — **ex-tin-guish-ment** \-mənt/
ex-tir-pate \ek-'stīr-'pāt/ *vt* -pat-ed; -pat-ing [L *extirpare*, fr.
extirpare, fr. *ex-* + *stirp*, *stirps* trunk, root — more at TORP-
 ID] 1 a: to pull up by the root b: to destroy completely: WIPE-
 OUT 2: to cut out by surgery *syn* *see* EXTERMINATE — **ex-tir-pa-tion**
 \stīr-'pā-shən/ *n* — **ex-tir-pa-tive** \ek-'stīr-'pāt-iv, ek-'stī-
 pət-iv/ *adj* — **ex-tir-pa-tor** \ek-'stīr-'pāt-ər/ *n*
ex-tol *also* **ex-toll** \ik-'stōl/ *vt* -tolled; -tol-ling [ME *extollē*,
 fr. L *extollere*, fr. *ex-* + *tollere* to lift up — more at TOLERATE
 : to praise highly: GLORIFY — **ex-tol-ler** *n* — **ex-tol-mē-**
nt \-stōl-mənt/ *n*
ex-tor-sion \ek-'stōr-shən, 'ek-/ *n*: outward rotation (as of a box
 part) about an axis or fixed point
ex-tort \ik-'stōt(ə)r/ *vt* [L *extortus*, pp. of *extorquere* to wrench ou
 extort, fr. *ex-* + *torquere* to twist — more at TORTURE]: to obta
 from a person by force or undue or illegal power or ingenui
 : WRING *syn* *see* EDUCE — **ex-tort-er** *n* — **ex-tort-ive** \-stōrt-iv/
adj
ex-tor-tion \ik-'stōr-shən/ *n* 1: the act or practice of extorting
 esp. money or other property; *specif*: the offense committed by a
 official engaging in such practice 2: something extorted; *es*
 : a gross overcharge — **ex-tor-tion-er** \-shən-ər/ *n* — **ex-tor-**
tion-ist \-shən-'nəst/ *n*
ex-tor-tion-ary \-shən-er-ē/ *adj*, *archaic*: EXTORTIONATE 1
ex-tor-tion-ate \ik-'stōr-shən-'āt/ *adj* 1: characterized by extor-
 tion 2: EXCESSIVE, EXORBITANT — **ex-tor-tion-ate-ly** *adv*
ex-tror-t \ek-'strə/ *adj*, *archaic*: *prob.* short for *extraordinary* 1 a: mor
 than is due, usual, or necessary: ADDITIONAL <~ work>
 : subject to an additional charge <room service is ~>
 : SUPERIOR <~ quality>
2 extra *n* 1: something extra or additional: as a: an addi-
 charge b: a special edition of a newspaper c: an addition
 worker; *specif*: one hired to act in a group scene in a motion
 picture or stage production 2: something of superior quality o
 grade
3 extra *adv*: beyond the usual size, extent, or degree <~ large>
extra- *prefix* [ME, fr. L, fr. *extra*, *adv.* & *prep.*, outside, except
 beyond, fr. *exter* being on the outside — more at EXTERIOR
 : outside: beyond <extrajudicial>
extra-base hit *n*: a hit in baseball good for more than one base
ex-tra-cell-u-lar \ek-'strə-'sel-yə-lər/ *adj*: situated or occurring
 outside a cell or the cells of the body <~ digestion> <~ enzymes>
 — **ex-tra-cell-u-lar-ly** *adv*
ex-tra-chro-mo-som-al \-krō-mə-'sō-məl, 'zō-/ *adj*: situated or
 controlled by factors outside the chromosome <~ inheritance>
ex-tra-cop-po-re-al \-kōr-'pōr-ē-əl, 'pōr-/ *adj*: occurring or based
 outside the living body <heart surgery employing ~ circulation>
 — **ex-tra-cop-po-re-al-ly** \-ē-ə-lē/ *adv*
ex-tra-cra-ni-al \-krā-nē-əl/ *adj*: situated or occurring outside the
 cranium
ex-tract \ik-'strakt, oftenest in sense 5 'ek-/ *vt* [ME *extracten*, fr.
 L *extractus*, pp. of *extrahere*, fr. *ex-* + *trahere* to draw — more
 at DRAW] 1 a: to draw forth (as by research) <~ data> b
 : to pull or take out forcibly <~ed a wisdom tooth> c: to
 obtain by much effort from someone unwilling <~ed a confes-
 sion> 2: to withdraw (as a juice or fraction) by physical or
 chemical process; *also*: to treat with a solvent so as to remove a
 soluble substance 3: to separate (a metal) from an ore 4: to
 determine (a mathematical root) by calculation 5: to select
 (excerpts) and copy out or cite *syn* *see* EDUCE — **ex-tract-able**
 \-trakt-ə-bəl, 'ek-/ *adj* — **ex-tract-er** \-trakt-ər, 'ek-/ *n*
2 extract \ek-'strakt/ *n* 1: a selection from a writing or dis-
 course: EXCERPT 2: a product (as an essence or concentrate)
 prepared by extracting; *esp*: a solution (as in alcohol) of essential