



appliance

noun | ap-ply-ance | \ə-ˈplī-ən(t)s\

Simple Definition of APPLIANCE

: a machine (such as a stove, microwave, or dishwasher) that is powered by electricity and that is used in people's houses to perform a particular job

Source: Merriam-Webster's Learner's Dictionary

Examples: APPLIANCE in a sentence

Tip: Synonym guide

Full Definition of APPLIANCE

1 : an act of **applying**

2 **a**: a piece of equipment for adapting a tool or machine to a special purpose : **ATTACHMENT**
b: an instrument or device designed for a particular use or function <an orthodontic *appliance*>; *specifically*: a household or office device (as a stove, fan, or refrigerator) operated by gas or electric current
c British: **FIRE ENGINE**

3 *obsolete*: **COMPLIANCE**

See **appliance** defined for English-language learners

See **appliance** defined for kids

Examples of APPLIANCE in a sentence

All household *appliances* are now on sale.

<since the invention of the cork, all manner of *appliances* have been invented for the extraction of these sometimes troublesome stoppers>

First Known Use of APPLIANCE

1561

1561

Related to APPLIANCE

Synonyms

gadget, contraption, contrivance, gimmick, gizmo (*also* gismo), jigger, widget

Synonym Discussion of APPLIANCE

IMPLEMENT, TOOL, INSTRUMENT, APPLIANCE, UTENSIL mean a relatively simple device for performing work. IMPLEMENT may apply to anything necessary to perform a task <crude stone *implements*> <farm *implements*>; TOOL suggests an implement adapted to facilitate a definite kind or stage of work and suggests the need of skill more strongly than IMPLEMENT <a carpenter's *tools*>; INSTRUMENT suggests a device capable of delicate or precise work <the dentist's *instruments*>; APPLIANCE refers to a tool or instrument utilizing a power source and suggests portability or temporary attachment <household *appliances*>; UTENSIL applies to a device used in domestic work or some routine unskilled activity <kitchen *utensils*>.

Rhymes with APPLIANCE

affiance, nonscience

APPLIANCE Defined for Kids

appliance

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Definition of APPLIANCE for Students

WORD OF THE DAY

fret

to become worried

Get Word of the Day daily email!

Your email address

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TRENDING NOW

- 1 **ransom**
"We do not pay ransom"
- 2 **redact**
That's classified
- 3 **pivot**
"I mean, you have to be you"
- 4 **winningest**
Yes, winningest is a real word
- 5 **sarcasm, sarcastic**
From 'sarkazein', 'to tear flesh li...

SEE ALL >

BROWSE DICTIONARY

applay
appliance
appliance
applicable
applicableness

WORD GAMES

Take a 3-minute break and test your skills!



Name that Fruit!

pomelo

pomegranate

jackfruit

lingonberry



Test your knowledge - and maybe learn something along the way.

TAKE THE QUIZ >



Test Your Knowledge - and

: a piece of household equipment that performs a particular job



Medical Dictionary

appliance

noun | ap-*pli*-ance | \ə-*plī*-ən(t)s\

Medical Definition of APPLIANCE

: an instrument or device designed for a particular use <prosthetic *appliances*> <an orthodontic *appliance* used to move misaligned teeth into proper occlusion>

Learn More about APPLIANCE

Thesaurus: All synonyms and antonyms for *appliance*

Spanish Central: Translation of *appliance*

Nglish: Translation of *appliance* for Spanish speakers

Britannica English: Translation of *appliance* for Arabic speakers

Seen and Heard

What made you want to look up *appliance*? Please tell us where you read or heard it (including the quote, if possible).

WORDS AT PLAY



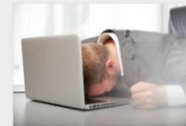
Alternate vs. Alternative
It's good to have choices



What Does 'Scale the Business' Mean?
Scaling 'scale'



10 Words That Prove Fame Isn't Everything
Not all publicity is good



What's a 'Headdesk'?
When facepalms aren't enough

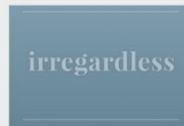
ASK THE EDITORS



How Often Is 'Biweekly'?
Don't get us started on 'bimonthly'



Malaprop
We'll tell you all the perpendiculars



Irregardless
It is in fact a real word (but that doesn't mean you should ...)

Weird Plurals

One goose, two geese. One moose, two... moose. What ...

WORD GAMES



Name More Food!
Test your knowledge of food vocabulary!
[TAKE THE QUIZ >](#)



Original Meanings Quiz
A quiz for the pedantic and those annoyed by them!
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