



barb

noun 4 ▾

Synonyms

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GIVE YOUR S
A NEW MOOI

barb 1 of 4 noun (1)

'bärb ◀▶

Synonyms of *barb* >

- 1 : a medieval cloth headdress passing over or under the chin and covering the neck
- 2 **a** : a sharp projection extending backward (as from the point of an arrow or fishhook) and preventing easy extraction
also : a sharp projection with its point similarly oblique to something else
- b** : a biting or pointedly critical remark or comment
- 3 : **BARBEL** entry 2
- 4 : any of the side branches of the shaft of a feather
 → see feather illustration
- 5 : a plant hair or bristle ending in a hook

'bärb-ləs ◀▶

adjective

barb 2 of 4 verb

barbed; barbing; barbs



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4 of 4 **noun** (3)

slang

: BARBITURATE

Noun (1)



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dig

diss

gird

insult

offense

outrage

poke

sarcasm

slight

dis [*slang*]

epithet

indignity

name

offence

personality

put-down

slap

slur

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Noun (1)

delivered one last **barb** to his ex-girlfriend as he stalked away

Recent Examples on the Web

Noun

Christopher Polk/Variety via Getty Images The duo traded **barbs** in between



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verb

The landscape around it lay newly **barbed** with cannon, mortars, and bombproof shelters, these installed by hundreds of captive workers whose labor was donated by their Charleston owners.

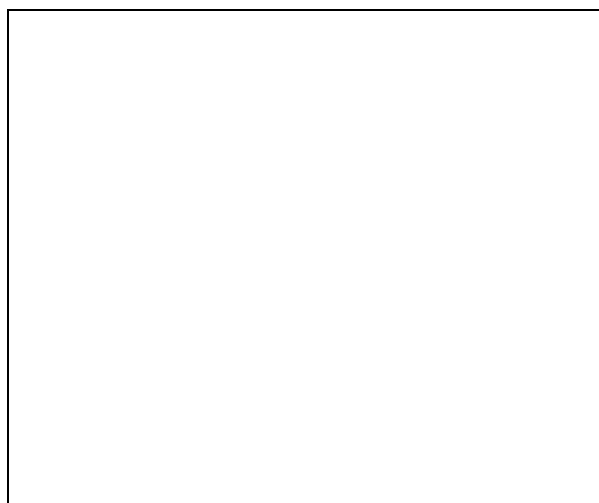
– CBS News, 26 Apr. 2024

Hammel is an appealing screen presence, tossing off inappropriate remarks with blithe abandon and making Karla the sort of friend who's both endearing and exasperating — her affection often **barbed** and her opportunism unapologetic.

– David Rooney, *The Hollywood Reporter*, 3 Sep. 2019

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Noun (2)

French *barbe*, from Italian *barbero*, from *barbero* of Barbary, from *Barberia* Barbary, coastal region in Africa

First Known Use

Noun (1)

14th century, in the meaning defined at sense 1

Verb

1759, in the meaning defined above

Noun (2)

circa 1610, in the meaning defined above

Noun (3)

1955, in the meaning defined above

Time Traveler

The first known use of *barb* was in the 14th century

See more words from the same century

baratte

barb



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Style

MLA

"Barb." *Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary*, Merriam-Webster, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/barb>. Accessed 22 Sep. 2024.

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barb noun

'bärb

- 1 **a** : a sharp point that sticks out and backward (as from the point of an arrow or fishhook)
b : any of various sharp parts (as the side branch of a feather) that stick out from a plant or animal
- 2 : an often witty remark intended to hurt a person's feelings

-ləs adjective



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'bärb ◀▶

slang

: BARBITURATE

English: Translation of *barb* for Spanish Speakers

Britannica.com: Encyclopedia article about *barb*



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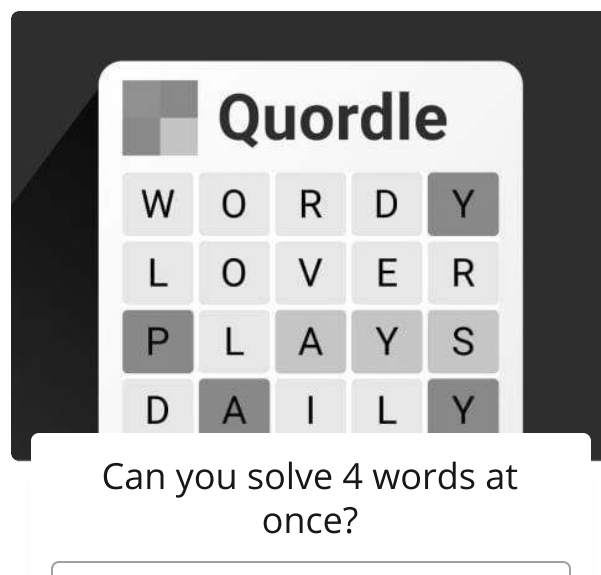
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Absent Letters That Are Heard Anyway

See All

Weird Words for Autumn Time

Much Ado about 'Folie à deux'

10 Words from Taylor Swift Songs (Merriam's Version)



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9 Superb Owl words

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Play

Blossom Word Game

Pick the best words!

Play



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Missing Letter

A daily crossword with a twist

Play

Farm Idioms Quiz

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

Take the quiz

Learn a new word every day.
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